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Gunman held at Pakistan Parliament

ISLAMABAD, Feb 10, (Reuters): A man carrying a concealed gun was arrested as he tried to enter the Pakistani Parliament building in Islamabad yesterday, the official APP news agency said.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was attending a parliament session at the time, but there was no immediate indication that she may have been an assassination target.

APP said the man was a retired government employee who was about to enter a National Assembly (lower house) gallery before the security men found a pen pistol hidden in a stick carried by him.

Witnesses said the bearded man was holding a pass for a seat in a gallery from where he would have been only about 20 metres (yards) from Benazir.

Benazir, daughter of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, took office in December as the first woman prime minister of a Muslim nation after her Pakistan People's Party won general elections in November.

Iraq denies coup attempt

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 10, (Agencies): Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has denied reports of an attempted coup last month in Baghdad against President Saddam Hussein and the execution of participants in the attempt.

"It's completely baseless, I absolutely deny it," Aziz told reporters at United Nations headquarters.

Aziz was at the UN headquarters to discuss with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar ways to resume the stalled peace negotiations with Iran.

Hostages' plight

BEIRUT, Feb 10, (UPI): A Shiite clergyman said he believed that there was no imminent solution to the plight of 15 foreign hostages held in Lebanon.

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افغان جنگی شہداء کے اجلاس میں ہنگامہ
بین الاقوامی پولیٹ اور میسور
میں آتش زدگی
اقوام متحدہ کا امدادی
سلمان کاہل پیچھے چلا
پاکستان کی قومی اسمبلی میں
سیخ شخص گرفتار
بش کی وفاقی اخراجات
تمجد کرنے کی تجویز
سکھ انتہا پسندوں نے آٹھ
افراد کو ہلاک کر دیا
لاہور تاہم

WEATHER
DECREASE in temperature with moderate north-westerly wind that may freshen at times.
State of sea: rough to moderate
High water: 3.00 am, 3.30 pm
Low water: 9.30 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.31 am
Sunset: 5.34 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 20°C 68°F
Ahmad: 19°C 64°F
Fahala: 18°C 64°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 3°C 37°F
Ahmad: 9°C 48°F
Fahala: 9°C 48°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 16°C 61°F
Ahmad: 15°C 59°F
Fahala: 15°C 59°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 85 per cent
Ahmad: 84 per cent
Fahala: 15 per cent

Talks with Saddam significant: Premier

LONDON, Feb 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah was quoted as saying here yesterday that the discussions between HH the Crown Prince and Premier of Kuwait Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and Iraqi leaders focussed on economic co-operation, including bringing of water from Shatt Al Arab to Kuwait.

Sheikh Saad, who is at present visiting Iraq, yesterday held another round of talks with the Vice Chairman of Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council Izzat Ibrahim.

The Premier also met Iraq's Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah.

In Baghdad, the Crown Prince described his meeting with Iraq's President Saddam Hussein on Wednesday as significant.

Sheikh Saad said the meeting was held in the true spirit of Arab fraternity.

He said, they discussed bilateral and other issues of mutual concern and Arab issues.

Accord

Kuwait on Wednesday signed an agreement with Iraq on agriculture.

The accord provides for co-operation between the two countries in the fields of animal wealth, training agricultural cadres and exchange of experts.

Sheikh Saad and his accompanying delegation today visited the holy shrines in Karbala and Najaf.

Karbala's Governor Ghazi Mohammed Ali presented a copy of the Holy Quran and an ancient Arab sword, to Sheikh Saad.

The Crown Prince also visited Kufa and Babylon.



Sheikh Saad receiving Adnan Khairallah.

Gulf war risk insurance premiums scrapped

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuters): War risk cargo insurance premiums for vessels trading in the Gulf have been scrapped, the War Risk Rating Committee, a group of London underwriters, including Lloyd's of London, said today.

The decision, which takes immediate effect, means that vessels entering the Gulf for destinations in Iran, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates will only be charged the universal war risk cargo rate — payable on all cargoes traded throughout the world — of 0.0275 per cent.

Premiums over this rate in the Gulf have gradually been reduced since the ceasefire last Aug 20 which ended the war between Iran and Iraq.

About 12 vessels, including a US warship and some of the world's biggest tankers, hit mines during the eight-year conflict and many others were damaged in the Iraqi and Iranian attacks.

Buried alive

TUNIS, Feb 10, (Reuters): Three workers were killed when tonnes of cement buried them alive in a silo at a cement factory in the northern Tunisian town of Bizerte, local newspapers said today.

The workers had entered the silo from ground level on Wednesday when the cement powder fell on them from above.

Security Council meets to debate Israeli crackdown

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 10, (AP): The Security Council met today to debate Israel's crackdown on Palestinian protests following the release of a US human rights report that criticised the Israeli Army for firing on civilians and demolishing houses.

In an opening statement, PLO representative M. Nassar Al Kidwa listed Palestinian grievances against Israel's crackdown on the 14-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Notwithstanding the atrocities Israel has already committed against our people, it now imposes additional forms of oppression," Kidwa said.

"Have you ever heard, even during the dark ages, of the demolition of a family's home because of a stone thrown by a child at occupation troops?" he said. "Have you ever heard of the so-called plastic bullet that settles inside the head, causing total brain damage or brain death, mostly among children?"

Tragedy

"Have you ever heard of troops, even when not in so-called danger, being given licence to fire at unarmed civilians?"

"Now, toward the end of this 20th century, you do hear about all those Israeli practices in the

Freeze on defence spending

\$1.16 trillion Bush budget trims deficit

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (Agencies): President Bush has proposed a one-year freeze on defence spending in his budget for 1990 that would slash the huge US deficit without raising taxes.

The \$1.16-trillion budget would allocate more funds for high priority domestic programmes, such as education, drug abuse and the environment.

"We can afford to increase spending — by a modest amount, but enough to invest in key priorities and still cut the deficit by almost 40 per cent in one year," Bush told a joint session of Congress yesterday.

The budget for fiscal 1990, which runs from Oct 1, would cut the deficit to \$91.1 billion from an estimated \$163.3 billion this year.

Proposal

Bush's proposal came comfortably under the \$100-billion deficit target set in law for 1990. That law calls for the deficit to be completely wiped out by 1993.

In his first opportunity to show where his presidency will differ from former President Reagan's, Bush asked Congress for a freeze in defence spending for one year, allowing Pentagon spending to rise \$9.1 billion to \$299.3 billion to cover inflation.

That was a major shift from the \$1.15-trillion budget proposed in January by Reagan.

who asked for an increase in defence budget authority of two per cent over inflation.

Bush said he would ask for a one-per-cent rise for defence in 1991 and 1992 and a two-per-cent rise in 1993.

He did not detail changes in defence programmes, but ordered National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft to report in 90 days on where spending should be allocated.

Basics

Bush's agenda for government was outlined in a 193-page document which will form the basis of negotiations between the White House and Congress this year.

The White House said Bush forecast economic growth would boost tax receipts by \$81.1 billion in 1990 and help hold down mandatory government spending.

He proposed to freeze spending in many domestic programmes at \$136.0 billion in 1990 without granting an increase to make up for inflation in 1989.

At the White House, Office of Management and Budget Director Richard Darman told reporters Bush had avoided setting out exactly which programmes would be cut because this had been "meaningless" in the past.

"Let's agree on a cap and then let's negotiate how you want to spend within that cap...then we can have serious negotiations on what goes up and what goes down," Darman said.

In fulfilment of his campaign pledge to be "the education President," Bush proposed new education spending of \$250 million to reward successful schools in 1990, \$100 million for special schools designed to promote a better racial mix by offering attractive courses, and \$60 million over four years in new grants for historically black colleges.

Bush sought nearly one billion (Continued on Page 2)

Indian studio fire kills 36 trapped behind locked doors

BANGALORE, India, Feb 10, (Reuters): A television studio in India became a death trap for 36 people who burned to death behind a door locked to keep out spectators, police said.

They said many of the bodies were found close to the locked door of the studio in Mysore in southern India where a television serial was being recorded.

"People were running helter skelter and screaming," said Mirza Khan, who arrived shortly after fireworks set off as part of a wedding scene ignited fabric, coconut fronds and hay used to create a village atmosphere.

"It was a terrible scene," said a studio worker. "People were running around and screaming and falling down."

Spread

The fire swiftly spread through the television set and adjoining parts of the studio on Wednesday night and it took firemen more than two hours to control the blaze.

Police said bodies were found in the charred ruins of the set at the six-storey Premier Studios building in Mysore, 75 miles (120 km) southwest of Bangalore. Others died later in hospital.

"The studios were locked from inside to prevent onlookers from disturbing the shooting," Karnataka state police chief A.R. Nizamuddin told reporters.

He was unable to identify those who died or say whether they were actors or technicians.

Among 18 people badly hurt was leading director and actor Sanjay Khan. He was in serious condition in a Bangalore hospital with burns covering more than half his body, doctors said.

Role

"Sanjay, who was behind the camera, went onto the set to pull out some technicians but his clothes caught fire and he fell down," Mirza, the actor's cousin, said in Bangalore.

"He is in quite a bad way," said Sanjay's brother Samir.

Sanjay Khan had the starring role in the television series "The Sword of Tippu Sultan," which tells the story of an 18th century ruler of Mysore who led an ultimately vain attempt to halt British colonial expansion in India.

The film crew had been working for weeks in Mysore to get the first few episodes of the 52-part series finished in time for serialisation to begin in April.

Fire disrupts flights at Bombay airport

BOMBAY, Feb 10, (Agencies): A fire at Bombay's Sahar international airport forced the temporary suspension of flights there yesterday but caused no casualties.

An official at India's International Airports Authority in New Delhi said the operations resumed two hours after the fire broke out during the morning in a duty-free shop in the departure lounge.

Takeoffs remained suspended during the blaze. Some planes did land but passengers were forced to remain within their aircraft until the fire was brought under control.

Between 400 and 500 passengers, waiting in the terminal to board two flights, were evacuated as smoke filled the building and eight aircraft parked alongside the terminal were towed to safety.

Spot

"Our information is that there were no casualties," the official said.

Bombay, a major refuelling spot for airlines flying between Southeast Asia and the Gulf and Europe, is India's busiest international airport and handles the bulk of traffic during the evening or night.

"There is some damage to the terminal," he said. "We may have to curtail some facilities and there may be some crowding."

Sources said an electrical short circuit caused the fire. An inquiry has been ordered into the blaze.

In Bahrain, Gulf Air said it had cancelled its flights into Bombay, as did Cathay Pacific, according to a spokesman for that airline in Hong Kong, its home base.



Sanjay Khan

Immigrant visas

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (Reuters): The State Department announced yesterday a special offer of immigrant visas to 20,000 people from 162 countries judged "underrepresented" in the flow of foreigners to the United States.

MIAMI, Florida, Feb 10, (UPI): A luxury liner collided with a Cuban cement carrier off the Cuban coast today, cutting the freighter in half and leaving four of its crewmen missing, the Coast Guard said.

Afghan mujahedeen postpone crucial meeting after row

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Feb 10, (Reuters): Afghan mujahedeen rebels postponed a crucial consultative council (shura) meeting to approve an interim government shortly after it started today after a last-minute row went unresolved.

Hamid Karzai, a spokesman for an alliance of seven mujahedeen groups based in the north-west Pakistan city of Peshawar, told reporters no date had been set for the resumption of the council.

Delegates said the reason for the shura's second postponement was the same as the first — a row between fundamentalists and moderates over how many seats should be allotted to eight mujahedeen groups based in Iran.

The shura was originally scheduled for Feb 1. It appeared the problem was resolved when Peshawar alliance leader Sibghatullah Mojaddidi last weekend reached agreement over seats with the Tehran-based groups.

Objected

But last night, four fundamentalist groups among the Peshawar alliance objected to the agreement.

Mojaddidi agreed to give them 100 seats at the shura, compared to the 60 each allotted to the Peshawar seven.

Tehran leader Mohammad Karim Khalili said the eight Iran-based groups of the Shiite minority sect of Islam had also been given seven seats on the 28-member interim government and (Continued on Page 2)



Mojaddidi (second from left) and other leaders of the main Pakistan-based Afghan rebel alliance seated at the table before the postponement of the consultative council meeting. (Reuters wire-photo)

UN chief trying to revive Gulf talks

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 10, (Reuters): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said today he hoped to arrange a new round of Gulf peace talks here between the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq in late March or early April.

He told Reuters he planned to see Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Iran's Ali Akbar Velayati together later in the day, but only to make arrangements for a new round of negotiations.

He did not anticipate further joint meetings while the two were in New York "because we are going to discuss procedure, not substance."

"What I am trying is to obtain that they meet together, perhaps in March or the beginning of April," Perez de Cuellar said as he arrived at UN headquarters.

Asked whether the projected talks would take place in New York or Geneva, he said: "I would like New York. And I will insist on New York."

Meeting

The two foreign ministers last met face-to-face in Geneva in November.

Perez de Cuellar conferred yesterday with Aziz and Velayati whom he also saw at a diplomatic reception shortly after the Iranian minister arrived in New York last evening.

Aziz and Velayati have already told reporters they are willing to meet together today.

They have held two rounds of negotiations in Geneva since the Gulf ceasefire went into force last Aug 20 but made little headway in implementing other elements of a Security Council peace plan known as Resolution 598.

This calls for the withdrawal of troops to the internationally recognised boundaries, the release of some 100,000 of war captured during the eight-year-long Gulf war, and a comprehensive settlement of all outstanding differences.

Aziz and Velayati came to New York this week after the secretary-general's special Gulf envoy, Ambassador Jan Eliasson of Sweden, visited Tehran and Baghdad last month in a bid to revive the stalled peace talks.

Release

The mandate of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG), set up last August to monitor the ceasefire, was renewed by the Security Council on Wednesday until the end of September.

Iran is to release 260 wounded Iraqi prisoners of war in a unilateral gesture to mark the 10th anniversary of its Islamic revolution, Velayati said yesterday.

"They are going to be released in a few days," said Velayati, speaking at a news conference at the end of a two-day visit to Spain.

Seeking military victory was a mistake, admits Iran

NICOSIA, Feb 10, (AP): Iranian leaders have admitted that seeking a military victory against Iraq was what one called "too big a bite," and said that US intervention in the Gulf tipped the strategic scales against Tehran.

President Ali Khamenei, Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and Chief Justice Musavi Ardebili also conceded in a series of unusually frank interviews with the official Islamic Republic News Agency that the Islamic revolution is still a long way from reaching its objectives.

The interviews by IRNA, in recent days, came as Iran celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution with the leadership divided over what direction Iran should take.

The comments on the war and Iran's strategic failures were the first by senior figures to shed light on the inner workings of Tehran's military planning and its eventual decision to accept a ceasefire in the eight-year-old Gulf war.

Ardebili said that the naval intervention in the Gulf by the US and several European navies to protect shipping from Iranian attack severely jolted Tehran.

"We saw that the United States was prepared to send its Navy into the Gulf and pull the world along with it," he said. "We had not taken that into account."

He added: "I am among those who believe that the war should have been stopped after the liberation of Khorramshahr."

The Iraqis were driven out of that southern Iranian port city on the Shatt Al Arab waterway in 1982.

IRNA did not say in the eight pages of interview excerpts it ran whether Ardebili indicated that he had opposed Ayatollah Khomeini, whose objective was to defeat Iraq and topple President Saddam Hussein, in 1982 or sought to persuade him to end the war after the Iraqis were driven back across the border.

Accept

But the remarks made by Ardebili, Rafsanjani and Khamenei indicated that some of Iran's more pragmatic leaders disagreed with Khomeini's insistence on continuing the war.

Iran's military strategy clearly had failed some time before Tehran was forced to accept a United Nations ceasefire resolution last July after a series of battlefield defeats.

IRNA quoted Rafsanjani as saying of Iran's aim of military victory: "We took too big a bite. Yes, we wanted something, but were not able to get it, and that was military victory. If we had moved with a bit more planning maybe it would not have been so far off."

Choice

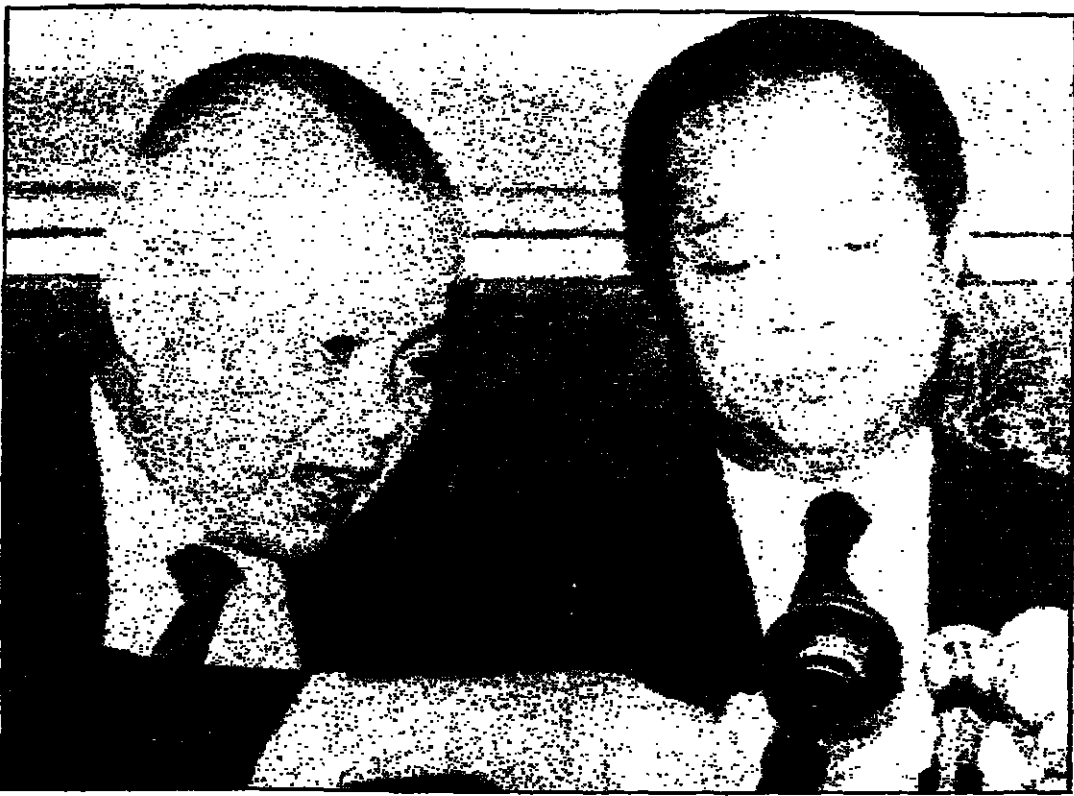
Ardebili said that the UN ceasefire resolution was accepted after the leadership "had done some calculations on our capabilities" of fighting on after a series of Iraqi offensives that left Iranian forces in disarray.

Dissident Iranian sources have said that Khomeini had little choice but to accept the ceasefire after Rafsanjani, Khamenei and other senior officials and military commanders met in early July. They concluded that poor military morale and severe shortages of heavy weapons meant Iran could not sustain its war effort.

Ardebili today urged United Nations officials to "show a bit of firmness" and pressure Iraq into pulling out its troops from Iranian territory.

IRNA reported few comments by Khamenei on the conduct of the war. But when asked whether the revolution had achieved its goals, he was quoted as saying: "It's true we have not reached our destination and we might not even be halfway there."

"But we have started to move in the right direction and this is very important. So the revolution can by no means be branded a failure."



Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan (left) confers with Prince Norodom Ranariddh while addressing a press conference in Beijing. (Reuters wirephoto)

One dies, 50 hurt in Bangladesh campus clash

DHAKA, Feb 10, (Reuters): A man was killed and at least 50 students injured when rival groups fought with guns and home-made bombs after a union election at Bangladesh's Dhaka University yesterday, witnesses and police said.

They said fighting broke out after a defeated student group attacked a victory march by the winners. Both sides used guns and bombs. They also set fire to a minibus and two shops.

Police said the dead man, a part-time student at a city college, was caught in a crossfire. The students also attacked journalists and smashed away cameras from two photographers.

A student alliance backed by Bangladesh's largest political party, the Awami League, won the election after a union election. Their opponents were supported by the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Dhaka University students have always played a key role in Bangladesh politics and results of their union election have influenced national elections.

Marcos got kickbacks from Japan's firms

MANILA, Feb 10, (Reuters): Former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos received millions of dollars in kickbacks from Japanese companies in exchange for road-building contracts, a cabinet minister testified yesterday.

Appearing with a cane and aided by a nurse, ailing former Public Highways Minister Baltazar Aquino made the allegation in oral and written testimony during hearings in connection with civil suits against Marcos.

Aquino, no relation to President Corason Aquino, in a separate written statement submitted to the court, identified the Japanese companies as Mitsui, Marubeni, Sakai, Sumitomo, Toyo Trading, Misshio-Iwai and C. Itoh.

He said Marcos collected 10 to 15 per cent of the contract price as "commissions" from the Japanese companies, with the amounts totalling \$4.5 million.

No role for Pol Pot, Sihanouk declares

BEIJING, Feb 10, (AP): Kampuchean rebel leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said today that Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot would never return to power in Kampuchea.

The announcement came a day after rebel leaders called for "national reconciliation" between the warring factions in Kampuchea and issued a peace plan that they said would keep the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

"I solemnly declare that there is no question of letting Pol Pot return to power," Sihanouk said in a statement.

"If one day there are elections held in Kampuchea under the United Nations, Pol Pot will not take part," Sihanouk's statement continued. "And after the elections, there will be no question of giving Pol Pot a place in the government of free Kampuchea."

Pol Pot led the pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge during their bloody reign in Kampuchea from 1975 to early 1979, when they were ousted from power by a Vietnamese invasion.

During Pol Pot's rule, an estimated two million of Kampuchea's eight million people died from Khmer Rouge execu-

tions, famine and civil unrest. Since the Vietnamese invasion, the Khmer Rouge have joined forces with rebels led by Sihanouk, Kampuchea's former ruler, and Son Sann, a Western-leaning politician, to fight the occupation.

Whereabouts In a news conference yesterday, Khieu Samphan, who now leads the Khmer Rouge, declined to disclose the whereabouts of Pol Pot. He also refused to confirm or deny reports that China offered to let Pol Pot live in Beijing as part of a peace settlement in the Kampuchean civil war.

Under the rebel leaders' proposal, 2,000 UN personnel would supervise the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. A UN peacekeeping force also would be stationed in Kampuchea after the Vietnamese left to keep the Khmer Rouge from monopolising power, prevent a civil war and protect Kampuchea from the possibility of another Vietnamese invasion.

The proposal also calls for the establishment of a provisional government during the withdrawal that would include the three rebel factions and the Vietnamese-backed government. General elections would follow.

Carbide's ex-chief declared absconder

BHOPAL, Feb 10, (AP): The former chairman of Union Carbide Corp. was declared an "absconding offender" yesterday in an effort to extradite him from the United States to face criminal charges in the 1984 gas leak that killed more than 3,300 people here.

Chief judicial magistrate R.C. Mishra issued a warrant on Nov 15, 1988, for Warren Anderson's arrest to answer homicide charges filed by the Indian government.

Repeated summons have failed to bring Anderson to Bhopal, Indian government counsel Prasad told Mishra in requesting that the former executive of the US-based multinational be declared an absconder.

Mishra granted the request, which is designed to make it

easier for the Indian government to initiate extradition proceedings.

India and the United States do not have an extradition treaty, but individual extraditions are possible.

The proclamation issued by Mishra orders Anderson to appear before the Bhopal magistrate on March 31.

Charges of culpable homicide were filed last November against Anderson, Union Carbide Corp. of Danbury, Connecticut, Union Carbide Eastern Inc. of Hong Kong, Union Carbide India Ltd., and eight officials of the Indian subsidiary.

Anderson was chairman of Union Carbide on Dec 3, 1984, when methyl isocyanate leaked out of a tank at a Bhopal pesticide plant operated by the Indian subsidiary.

New emperor opens Japan's parliament

Takeshita vows to restore trust

TOKYO, Feb 10, (UPI): Japan's new Emperor, Akihito, opened the 1989 session of the Japanese parliament today.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita pledged in a major policy address to restore the people's trust in politics severely damaged by a spreading stocks-for-favours scandal and to continue Japan's moderate defence build-up.

Akihito, 55, who ascended to the throne on Jan 7 when Emperor Hirohito died at age 87, stood in front of a golden throne in black tails and gray slacks as he addressed both houses of the Diet, or Japanese parliament.

Akihito spoke in common Japanese, breaking from the custom of past emperors to address the Diet in a stiff language used only by superiors when addressing subordinates.

The 44 Japan Communist Party members walked out to protest the imperial system as Akihito entered the main hall of the Diet building.

In his policy statement, Takeshita said the "No.1 priority

issue" of his administration will be cleaning up politics.

"There is a broadening popular distrust of politics today as a result of the Recruit problem," Takeshita said.

Scandal

The Recruit Co allegedly offered politicians and other leaders unlisted shares of stock in a subsidiary in exchange for favours. When the stock was listed publicly, the recipients reaped huge profits as the stock quickly increased in value.

Three members of Takeshita's cabinet and Takeshita's secretary have been forced to resign due to connections with the Recruit Company.

"I am determined to spare nothing in working with you to effect these (political) reforms," said Takeshita.

Takeshita did not specify how the reform would be achieved except to say, "the only way to respond... is for each politician to implement his or her own personal reform."

Opposition party leaders dismissed Takeshita's pledge for

political reform as hollow and called on the prime minister to resign.

Takeshita said to maintain a smooth security arrangement with the United States he will "work to promote a moderate defence build-up."

The cabinet approved a 5.9 per cent increase in defence spending, or about four per cent above inflation, for 1989.

Japan's defence spending, however, remains just slightly above one per cent of its gross national product, compared with the United States defence budget of about 7 per cent of GNP.

Takeshita said Japan's defence buildup will have to be in accordance with the country's three non-nuclear principles — no production, possession or transportation of nuclear weapons on Japanese soil. Takeshita offered no new initiatives in foreign policy but reiterated his commitment to increasing Japan's aid to developing countries, cultural exchange programmes and support of

international peace organisations.

"Japan-United States relations in particular are the cornerstone of Japanese foreign policy," Takeshita said.

He said he would work to resolve the greenhouse effect, which is believed to be raising average temperatures worldwide, and other global environmental problems.

"Conflict and dispute, of course, get us nowhere, and it is imperative that we make a wise and determined effort to eradicate all traces of competition and distrust from the face of the earth," Takeshita said.

He said people can overcome every difficulty through "the gentle politics of concert and trust, valuing every precious life and all irreplaceable nature."

"We have an unprecedented great responsibility and role to play in both economic and overall international affairs," he said. "We are resolved to contribute to the utmost towards the peace and prosperity of the world."

Hirohito's final rites will last 13 hours

TOKYO, Feb 10, (Reuters): The procession, last rites and state funeral for Japan's Emperor Hirohito on Feb 24 will last 13 hours, the state funeral committee announced.

The main ceremony, to be attended by 10,000 dignitaries from over 100 countries including US President Bush, will be staged at the Shinjuku Gyoen Park in western Tokyo and last two-and-a-half hours.

The first half of the ceremony will be a religious rite conducted according to the traditions of Japan's indigenous Shinto religion as a private ceremony of the imperial household. A special wooden funeral hall is almost complete at the site.

The second portion of the ceremony will be a non-religious state funeral rite for Hirohito, who died on Jan 7, aged 87.

The ceremony has been divided in this way to conform with constitutional provisions on the separation of church and state. But all 10,000 guests, including foreign leaders and government officials, will be present throughout, officials said.

Prayers

On the day of the funeral, the first rite of offering and prayer at the imperial palace in central Tokyo will start at 7.30 am (2230 GMT).

The hearse will leave the palace at 9.00 am, (0000 GMT) with the funeral procession scheduled to reach the park at 10.15 am (0115 GMT).

After more religious rites including offerings and prayers, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will lead the guests and the entire nation in one minute of silence at noon (0300 GMT) and then deliver a funeral address.

After guests pay their last respects, the hearse will leave for the imperial burial grounds at Hashioji, west of Tokyo in a second procession. The burial and more offerings and prayers will end at 8.50 pm (1150 GMT).

Meanwhile, a leader of Japan's most feared ultra-leftist group warned today that radicals may try to fire homemade rockets into a Tokyo park on Feb 24, where Bush and 50 other heads of state plan to gather for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

Artist strips to launch poll campaign

TAIPEI, Feb 10, (Reuters): Taiwan artist Hsu Shao-Tan, who last week announced plans to run for the island's parliament, today launched her campaign by kicking off her clothes at a Taipei disco.

"Are the police here? Where's the vice squad? Come out and show yourselves," Hsu said after she made good on her pledge to strip naked in public.

No police appeared to arrest the 29-year-old Hsu, who will put on two more performances of The Dirty Woman Play this week.

Last year Hsu made headlines by threatening to kill herself on stage if police stopped her from removing her clothes at the end of a show entitled Dream Woman.

She eventually compromised and performed wrapped in a transparent veil.

Hsu says her platform for the parliamentary elections in December will be concern for the environment and artistic freedom.

Pakistan, China to forge Afghan strategy

Benazir visits Beijing today

ISLAMABAD, Feb 10, (Reuters): Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is likely to seek a common Afghan strategy with China during her first official foreign visit, according to officials in Islamabad.

She would also use the three-day visit to China, starting on Saturday, to promote friendship between the two neighbours, they said.

Benazir will meet senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang and Prime Minister Li Peng, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said.

Afghanistan would figure high in the talks in view of a Soviet troop withdrawal due to be completed by Wednesday and Afghan rebel plans to form an interim government, Pakistani officials and diplomatic sources said.

China and Pakistan, close allies since the 1960s, have been in the forefront opposing the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and have helped mujahedeen in their 10-year-old war against the Kabul government.



Benazir

While Pakistan played host to an estimated three million Afghan war refugees and the main Muslim guerrilla groups, China made a Soviet withdrawal one of its pre-conditions for improving relations with Moscow.

Beijing and Islamabad wanted to continue a common Afghan strategy even after the Soviet withdrawal, Pakistani officials said.

Benazir and Chinese leaders were also likely to compare notes on recent visits to Beijing and Islamabad by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Western diplomats said.

Benazir chose China for her first official visit soon after taking office in December as the first woman Prime Minister of a Muslim nation, saying this would give an impetus to the relations between the two nations.

Importance "This is an affirmation of the great importance the new democratic government attaches to further strengthening the Sino-Pakistan relationship," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Benazir's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, played a major role in developing close Sino-Pakistan ties, notably on defence, as Foreign Minister in the 1960s and Prime Minister in the 1970s.

Beijing seemed embarrassed when Pakistan's late military President Gen. Zia-ul-Haq dismissed the then-Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo last May immediately after Junejo's return from a visit to China.

Crackdown on Muslim extremists

Indonesian troops kill 37

JAKARTA, Feb 10, (UPI): Troops stormed the headquarters of a Muslim extremist group, killing 37 people to end what officials called the most serious security disturbance in four years, a military statement said.

Officials said the extremists were armed mainly with bows and arrows and knives.

A total of thirty-seven people died as a result of the incident yesterday and eleven soldiers were believed to have been injured in the clash near the village of Talangsari in southern Sumatra's Lampung province, 220 kms northwest of Jakarta, officials said.

Armed forces chief Gen. Try Sutrisno confirmed the incident, termed the most serious security disturbance in four years. The main clash was sparked on

Tuesday by the refusal of the Muslim group, Mujahidin Fisabilillah, to release a military officer who was taken hostage on Monday.

The officer reportedly was killed by the group. Two other officers and two civilians also were reportedly killed separately.

"I appeal for calm, for people to maintain vigilance and national unity," Sutrisno said after announcing the clash.

Subversion

"I fully support the actions of the security apparatus in dealing with activities that threaten national stability," he said.

Authorities referred to the group as a subversive band, "hiding behind the mask of religion." Military commanders said they

seized what were described as evidence of the group's subversive activities — poisoned arrows, swords, firebombs and pamphlets urging opposition to the armed forces and the state.

Speaking in the southern Sumatra city of Palembang, regional military commander Maj. Gen. Sumardi described the events that led to the storming of the hideout.

"They had taken a soldier they had wounded with an arrow as a hostage and the troops stormed the hideout to attempt to release him," Sumardi said.

"The mob was around 200 to 300 strong and armed with bows and arrows with poisoned tips, as well as knives and two guns they had taken from the officers they killed or taken hostage," Sumardi said.

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Iraq wants to join talks on chemical arms

GENEVA, Feb 10, (Reuters): Iraq wants to participate in UN-sponsored talks on a chemical arms ban, UN officials said yesterday.

It was not clear if its adversary Iran, which has effective power of veto, would agree to let it do so.

The talks are part of the 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Conference, of which Iraq is a member but Iraq is not. Other non-member states have in the past been allowed to speak and make suggestions in drafting a ban on chemical weapons.

Chairman Aldo Pugliese of Italy announced at a full meeting that an application had been received from Iraq to participate in the conference.

Another UN official said later that the Iraqis had asked specifically to take part in the section of the conference dealing with chemical weapons.

An Iranian diplomat said he would announce his country's decision at the next session of the conference, on Tuesday.

Violence

MANILA, Feb 10, (UPI): At least 32 people were killed in separate incidents when unidentified gunmen raided a remote farming village and government forces overran a communist guerrilla camp, a military spokesman said today.

Burma may hold polls this year

RANGOON, Feb 10, (Reuters): Burma's military leader was quoted as saying he hoped elections could be held eight or nine months after publication of an election law in March.

Visiting Australian Senator Christopher Schacht told reporters General Saw Maung, leader of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, disclosed the timing at a meeting here.

Western diplomats said it was the first time a Burmese official has given even a rough timetable for a poll since the Army took over in September promising "free and fair" elections.

Timing

"The general opined that reasonable time must be allowed for free and fair elections and I agreed with that," Schacht said at a news conference after travelling round the country and meeting government and opposition figures yesterday.

He said Saw Maung told him an elections law would be published about two weeks after the closing of registration of political parties on Feb 28.

Saw Maung, who is also Prime Minister, said he hoped an election could be held "eight or nine months after that."

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Charles and Diana to visit Kuwait in March

LONDON, Feb 10, (AP): Prince Charles will visit Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates with Princess Diana, before travelling to Saudi Arabia alone on March 17, Buckingham Palace said on Wednesday.

The princess will return home at the end of the Emirates visit on March 16, the Palace said.

Prince Charles will travel to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz who made an official visit to Britain in June last year, it said.

Agriculture fair from March 7

KUWAIT'S 7th Food and Agriculture Exhibition will be organised at International Fairgrounds in Mishref from March 7, 1989, according to an official source at the Kuwait International Fair Co.

The exhibition is to be held on an area of 3,000 square metres. Companies participating, will display agricultural and food products, machines for agricultural and food industries and the latest methods of developing fish and animal wealth as well as foodstuffs.

A total of 62 local and foreign companies from Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Kenya will participate in the exhibition. Applications for further participation from other companies are still being sent to the company, the source said.

Thai arrested for distilling alcohol

SECURITY personnel of the Criminal Investigation Department at Jahra arrested a Thai national on charges of distilling and selling alcohol.

A search of the accused's residence revealed two bottles of alcohol and equipment for distilling.

The accused and the contraband have been referred to authorities for investigation.

Abouna praises new Kuwait organ transplant law

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (KUNA): A leading physician praised yesterday the new law governing organ transplants in Kuwait as coping with international developments in this field.

Head of the Organ Transplants Section of Kuwait University Professor George Abouna explained, in an exclusive interview with KUNA, that the new law details members to be taken in respect of organ transplants from dead donors, relatives willing to donate and dead persons with no next of kin in case of dire need for their body parts.

He said that apart from replacing the old law, which had dealt exclusively with kidney transplants, the new law commits hospitals to notify the organ transplants section of registered cases of death to establish if the dead is a previous donor or if his relatives are to be contacted for permission to use his body parts.

Prof. Abouna regretted that 350 deaths resulting from road accidents take place every year in Kuwait without being reported to his section, adding that as a result many chances are being lost to save numerous precious lives.

Speaking about average success of kidney transplant operations, he pointed out that it reached 90 per cent at the world level, compared to chances of 75 per cent success for liver and 70 per cent for pancreas transplant operations.

Underlining the need for donated body organs, the surgeon, who first successfully introduced the therapy in Kuwait almost a decade ago, said the life of many patients in Kuwait depended on such donations.

He cited figures of cases of kidney failures in the country as having reached 100 in every one million people annually apart from 250 people now living on kidney dialysis, which is a costly and ineffective process.

"There are 45 people in every one million," Dr George Abouna underlined, "who are in



George Abouna

need of liver transplants in Kuwait every year. One third of these are children, who, in most cases, die because of unavailable body parts."

Arguing his case, he explained that liver transplant operations undertaken abroad cost an average \$150-400 thousand, while if performed locally the operation will cost one third the amount, once organs are made available.

Over the past nine years the section has performed 450 successful kidney transplant operations, the physician said, adding that average success of heart transplants is 80 per cent and the operation can be conducted in Kuwait.

On potentials available locally, Professor Abouna indicated that the Kuwaiti medical team for organ transplants is in a position to perform 80 kidney, 40 pancreas and 40 liver transplant operations.

He added that a qualified technical team is being set up from inside and outside Kuwait to acquire body parts of dead persons needed for urgent operations. The team, Abouna said, will be ready to move swiftly to any hospital for the purpose.

According to the new law, a committee of three physicians, including a neurologist, will certify clinical death in any of the three donor cases, he concluded.

Franco-Arab ties beyond limitations, says Nasser

PARIS, Feb 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Social Affairs and Labour Minister, Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad Al Sabah was quoted here yesterday as praising Franco-Arab ties, saying it went beyond political and economic limits.

In two separate interviews here with "Radio France Internationale" and "Radio Orient", Sheikh Nasser said that away from the circle of big powers, France has played a very constructive role in developing relations with the Arab world.

He said Kuwait, which enjoys prosperous political and economic ties with France, has indulged in promoting its cultural relations with France.

The minister pointed out that the number of Kuwaiti students learning French here is in continuous growth, while many are reaping fruits from the "Voltaire" institute in Kuwait itself.

Sheikh Nasser pointed out that "Francophonie" is not only a way to learn the language, but also a complete system of political, economic and cultural exchange between French-speaking nations and the rest of the world.

Cultural invasion However, he denied that the growth of Francophonie constitutes a cultural invasion of the Arab world, saying this phenomenon is an experience of the past but now there is only a cultural exchange.

Attending the seminar on a personal initiative, Sheikh Nasser was presented by Secretary General of the Francophonie Higher Council, Stelio Farandjis and Council Member and Former President of Lebanon Charles Helou.

Speaking at the session, French Secretary of State for International Cultural Relations, Thierry De Beauce, hailed the cultural ties that existed for many centuries between France and the Arab world.

He said that while France



Sheikh Nasser

remains a leading nation in developing its cultural relations with the rest of the world, geopolitical elements have made Arab states among the top nations to benefit from this exchange.

Development De Beauce said that not only does the Paris-based Institute of the Arab World stand witness to the development to the depth of the cultural exchange, but there are also numerous associations that have been established in the past to serve this purpose.

Speaking to the KUNA, De Beauce said that Kuwait and France have developed mutual interest in establishing strong cultural relations through a variety of exchange programmes among other aspects of co-operation.

"I am very touched to know that the state of Kuwait has offered scholarships for French students to learn Arabic in Kuwaiti institutions," said the secretary of state.

He pointed out that Kuwait went even further to provide its own nationals with the means of studying French language and culture in France at different university levels.

Standards "The high standards of culture and education in Kuwait has enabled that country to open its gates to all aspects of knowledge and culture in the world," said De Beauce.

"The example set by the

Kuwaiti minister in speaking fluent French gives us the motivation to open ourselves even further towards the Arab world's language and culture," maintained the French secretary of state.

He described the cultural exchange between France and the Arab world as "traditional and very strong" due to the good neighbourly relations.

De Beauce said the geographical element has provided Europe and the Arab world with chances of inter-penetration of the cultural level.

Communications He added that Francophonie is just one sector of communications and exchange through the French language that links Europe with Arab countries.

The Francophone system, he said, must be developed especially with countries considered as more open to the English language, particularly in the Arab world.

France and Arab countries have indulged in several university, technical and audio-visual exchange programmes, said De Beauce, in order to bring the Arabs and French people to a better understanding of each other.

President Helou said the presence of Sheikh Nasser and his speech to the session is yet another proof of the great interest the Arab world in the Francophonie system.

The seminar was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador Dr Tariq Razouqi, Kuwait's Permanent Representative at UNESCO, Dr Faisal Al Salem, Social Affairs and Labour Assistant Undersecretary Sheikh Duaij Al Khalifa Al Sabah, Editor of Al Arabi Magazine, Dr Mohammad Al Rumaihi and Kuwaiti diplomats.

It was also attended by Arab ambassadors, members of the High Council, experts of Franco-Arab relations, foreign journalists and a number of intellectuals. The seminar was organised by the Higher Council of Francophonie and the Arab Affairs monthly magazine, Arabies.

Lebanese patriarchs to attend league committee meeting in Kuwait

DAMASCUS, Feb 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to Syria, Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Jassem yesterday conveyed here two invitations from Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Chairman of the Arab League's Six-man Committee on Lebanon Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, to Patriarch of Eastern Orthodox Agathangos the fourth Hazim and Patriarch of Catholics Maximus the fifth Hakim, calling them to attend the committee's Feb 20 meetings in Kuwait.

Jassem, in a statement to KUNA, said the patriarchs accepted the invitation and announced that they will personally participate in the meetings, promising to exert their maximum efforts to ensure success of the committee's endeavour.

Help The two religious leaders praised the efforts exerted by Kuwait and the Arab committee to help resolve the Lebanese crisis.

Hazim, told KUNA, "we fully back the committee and the goal it aims, which is achieving peace in Lebanon and preserving its

unity, independence and sovereignty." He said creating an atmosphere of fraternity and understanding among the Lebanese themselves and between Lebanon, Syria and the rest of the Arab countries.

"I hope that other countries' support to the committee's mission would be serious and responsible," he added.

Success Hakim, in a similar statement to KUNA, said "We appreciate such an initiative by the committee's Chairman Sheikh Sabah and we have been waiting for it for a long time, hoping the mission all success."

Jassem yesterday delivered similar invitations to four of Lebanese spiritual leaders in Beirut.

Meanwhile, British Ambassador to Kuwait Sir Peter Hinchcliff was quoted here yesterday as saying that his country supports the Arab League initiative on finding a solution for the Lebanese crisis, and will do its best to encourage the Lebanese parties to respond positively towards this initiative.

In a statement to a local daily,

the ambassador said the Arab initiative and the formation of the six-man committee headed by Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah came at the appropriate time, and that the UK supports Kuwait's efforts.

Support Hinchcliff added that Britain also supports the Security Council resolution issued on Dec 6 which calls for early presidential elections in Lebanon.

The six-man committee has already met with Premier of the Lebanese civil government Dr Selim Al Hos and head of the military government Michael Aoun in addition to Parliament Speaker Hussein Al Hussein in Tunisia last month.

Following the three-day meetings all parties concerned agreed on reaching a settlement to the Lebanese crisis.

The committee headed by Sheikh Sabah included the foreign ministers of Jordan, Algeria, Sudan, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates, in addition to the Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Khibi.

Canadian firm selected for GCC power grid study

BAHRAIN, Feb 10, (Reuters): Power officials from six Gulf states have awarded a \$1.26 million contract to the Montreal-based firm Hydro-Quebec International for a detailed study on plans to link their electricity networks.

Jamil Al Alawi, Bahrain Undersecretary for Power and Water Affairs, told Reuters the Power Grid Committee for the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) had evaluated preliminary studies from three international consultants shortlisted for the project.

The 18-month study would draw up detailed outlines for the first phase of the plan to link the

northern Gulf states of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

A second stage would link the southern states — the United Arab Emirates and Oman while a third would join the northern and southern networks.

Alawi said the entire project, estimated to cost around \$1.6 billion, would take at least a decade to complete but would save the GCC states millions of dollars.

Other benefits would be increased reliability of supply and the forging of an important strategic bond in the political and economic alliance.

Counselling centre requested for Sri Lankan workers

COLOMBO, Feb 10, (KUNA): Sri Lanka has requested the help of the Kuwaiti government to establish a counselling centre to assist Sri Lankan workers there, an official said here yesterday.

David Soysa, chairman of the state run Foreign Employment Bureau, told pressmen that this centre will work to solve employer-employee differences.

The Sri Lankan mission in Kuwait has been requested to establish the counselling centre, Soysa told pressmen.

"We will seek the assistance of the Kuwaiti government to maintain it," he said.

Currently, over 70,000 Lankans are working in Kuwait, most of them as housemaids, David Soysa said.

He said, there have been complaints from the Lankan workers of non-payment of agreed payment and harassment.

"This centre will sort out the misunderstanding between the employer concerned and the employee," he said.

Club for Palestinian children in Kuwait

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (KUNA): A group of women volunteers of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society have established a children's club to strengthen the patriotic attachment of Palestinian children to their homeland.

Link Named "The Palestinian Child Club," it is meant to feed the young generation of Palestinian children born in Kuwait historic, cultural and social knowledge with the aim of solidifying their attachment to Palestine.

The club will orient members with Palestinian folklore and symbols of national struggle to walk in their footsteps, club founders told KUNA.

They pointed out that they were alarmed by "a missing link" in the lives of Palestinian children, whose only passage to their homeland is memories of parents who were coerced by Zionist gangs into leaving Palestine in 1948.

According to Basma Kenan, the club will organise lectures and screen documentary films on Palestinian history, heritage, culture, and social life.

She said that founders of the club, who are career teachers, were inspired by a belief that they are serving their country's cause.

Kenan added that the Palestinian Red Crescent Society has availed all requirements for making the club a successful and worthy scheme.

Astronomy seminar to be held February 27

UNDER the auspices of HH the Amir, a seminar on the theme of "New Moon Timing and Astronomical Technology" will be opened in Kuwait on Feb 27, a local daily reported.

It added that the seminar to be co-sponsored by Kuwait Science Club and Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science (KFAS) will take place at the premises of the Science Club.

The daily quoted the organisation committee member and representative of Kuwait University Dr Arjawai Mustafas saying that the seminar will be

attended by 50 researchers. The seminar aims at arriving at a judicial and scientific consensus on the timing of the new moon. This will avoid any differences in opinion among Arab and Islamic countries.

Several research papers on this topic will be submitted through nine sessions of the seminar, the official said.

Arjawai praised HH the Amir's initiative in patronising the seminar in his capacity as the chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference.

Islamabad board asked to accept ISP exam papers

THE Lahore High Court, Rawalpindi bench, in an interim order asked the Federal Education Board of Islamabad to accept the matriculation examination papers of the students of the International School of Pakistan in Kuwait.

The board earlier decided not to extend the affiliation of the school thus endangering the future of 36 students appearing at the matriculation examination.

To save the future of these students a delegation of the

school had visited Pakistan. A petition has been filed by the ISP in the Lahore High Court, asking that the orders of the chairman of the Islamabad board be declared illegal.

The high court on Feb 1 allowed the school to deposit the forms of 36 students to the board, but no decision on the affiliation of the school was taken on that day.

The next date for the hearing of affiliation of the school is fixed for Feb 18.

Utilities and services are negligible in Wafra: residents

WAFRA, one of Kuwait's remote areas, is suffering from a big shortage of utilities and services and is being neglected by government officials, according to residents.

A large section of residents told a local daily that services at Wafra area are negligible. It lacks many essentials such as telephones, road transportation, electricity, cleanliness and entertainment services. The area also does not have a public garden or a youth centre.

Youths, the residents said, have no proper channels of entertainment. They called for the establishment of a youth centre on an urgent priority basis.

Falah Al Dousari, one of the residents described the Wafra road as dangerous. He said that many accidents occurred there.

So far officials have not taken any remedial measures. Sand and dust storms block roads and streets hindering traffic flow and causing accidents.

Another section of residents said that the market is too small and lacks car parking facilities, especially during holidays. Many shoppers are forced to park their automobiles away from the market. They demanded expansion of the market and more parking lots.

They said that half of Wafra population awaits electrical connections to their houses — a perennial problem, they added.

An owner of a garage said that most Wafra labourers do not know where to go after work hours. There is only one club which is reserved for employees of Getty Oil Co.

Nuclear medicine unit to open at Kuwait Military Hospital

A NEW unit for nuclear medicine will open at Kuwait's Military Hospital this year, according to Professor Hussain Abdul Dayem, the head of the Nuclear Medicine Department at the Health Ministry and Kuwait University.

In an interview with a local daily, he said that Kuwait has other nuclear medicine units at the Kuwait Cancer Fighting Centre, Chest Diseases Hospital, Amiri Hospital, the Organs Transplant Centre and at Kuwait University Medicine College Research Centre.

He considered Kuwait as a universal centre for nuclear medicine, and called upon officials to exert more efforts to train nationals in this field.

Professor Abdul Dayem said

that he officially visited Baghdad, on an invitation extended by the International Nuclear Energy Agency to plan the agency's programme during '89-90. He previously visited Syria at the beginning of this month to present officials with a nuclear medicine development plan. He also visited Jordan for the same purpose.

Professor Abdul Dayem headed the Kuwait delegation during the fourth conference meeting of the International Nuclear Medicine Federation held in China, last Nov. During the conference Kuwait's delegation was granted the presidency of the federation. Kuwait will host the conference during its coming session in 1992, Abdul Dayem added.

Kuwaiti archaeologists find gold coins in central Egypt

CAIRO, Feb 10, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti archaeological excavation mission has discovered gold coins that date back to the fourth Hijri century (tenth AD) in Al Behnsa district of central Egypt, it was reported here yesterday.

According to the weekly magazine "Al Mossawar," the Kuwaiti team, financed by Kuwait's National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, has been conducting excavations in Al Behnsa district for the past six years.

Accidentally, during its activities in the district, the magazine said, the team has unearthed 200 gold dinars which were found placed inside a "clay

jar."

The weekly said the gold coins were proved to date back to the reign of the late Islamic Fatimite Caliph Al Hakim Bimrallah of the fourth Hijri century — that is the tenth century after birth of Christ.

Al Mossawar said the mission is patronised by the Director-General of Kuwait's Islamic Antiquities House Sheikh Hishah Al Sabah and supervised by a British archaeologist.

The team is exploring precious and rare Islamic metal antiquities in the central Egyptian district of Behnsa, famous for its ancient Islamic monuments.

Two years for smuggling

THE Court of First Instance sentenced a Pakistani national to two years rigorous imprisonment to be followed by deportation upon being convicted of smuggling narcotics.

The court was told that the accused was apprehended at Kuwait International Airport on his arrival from Karachi. The customs officer suspecting the accused, conducted a body search. A small pouch containing small quantities of hashish, opium and heroin were found inserted in the accused's anal canal.

The court also ordered the convict to pay a penalty of KD100 and a custom's fine of KD40.



Iraqi fashion on show.



Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah (right) opened the Iraqi painting exhibition.

Iraqi Cultural Week a chance to boost art movement, says Bazzaz

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (KUNA): President of the Iraqi cultural delegation Saad Al Bazzaz yesterday praised the Kuwaiti media which stood by the Iraqis during the Iraq-Iran war.

Kuwait's choice for hosting the first cultural Iraqi Week after the ceasefire was not a coincidence, Bazzaz said, adding that Kuwait and Iraq have acquired deep rooted relations.

The Iraqi Cultural Week, which was inaugurated here on Wednesday aims at acquainting Kuwaiti citizens on Iraqi cultural heritage and art.

Boost

Bazzaz, who is also director of the radio and television stations in Iraq, said in a statement to Kuwait News Agency that it is Iraq's duty to participate in Kuwait's celebrations of its 28th National Day, and at a time when His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah is visiting the Iraqi capital.

Since both Iraqi and Kuwaiti

artists are mingling together in the activities of the week, it is a chance to boost the process of the art movement between the two countries, he noted.

The Iraqi Cultural Week groups various activities such as lectures on art in Iraq, a fashion show, and a musical concert.

Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Sabah on Wednesday toured and commended the paintings displayed at the Iraqi Formative Arts Exhibition which falls within activities of Iraq's cultural week.

He told reporters after the inauguration of the exhibition at Abdullah Al Salem Art Gallery that the display reflected originality and demonstrated the organisers' keenness to have it appear in such an excellent manner.

Pleasure Sheikh Jaber said he would pay a further visit to the exhibition prior to its closure after seven days "so as to have the pleasure of seeing all paintings on display."

TV CORNER

New TV channel for Failaka

KUWAIT'S Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah has announced that a new television channel will operate from Feb 15, KUNA said on Thursday. It will serve the residents of Failaka Island.

The new channel will link the operating channels of KTV 1. Transmission will be done via the TV transmission station in Failaka Island. It will be relayed by channel six.

From Feb 15, KTV 1 will be broadcast on Channels 5, 6, 10, 24 and 45.

Choice of the week

Tonight's 1979 feature film "Dummy," (10.30 pm, KTV 2) a poignant story about a young deaf-mute black teenager who

is charged with murder. Paul Sorvino plays the white lawyer who tries to prove his client's innocence despite enormous problems. LeVar Burton plays the teenager. Directed by Frank Perry.

Dead Man's Folly, Thursday night's special feature at 10.30 pm, KTV 2: Peter Ustinov plays Belgian detective Hercule Poirot in Agatha Christie's "Dead Man's Folly" and joins a "murder hunt" at an English country estate. Others in the cast are Jean Stapleton and Jonathan Cecil.

Kaanyah, Hindi feature film with Jeetendra, Shabana Azmi, Radha in the leads. Directed by K. Raghuvendra Rao. It will be shown on Friday, 4 pm, on KTV 1.



● Kerala's most popular Yesudas, upcoming female vocalist Sujatha (left) and 10-year-old Vijay pictured at the concerts held at the Granada Cinema on Wednesday and Thursday. The singer left Kuwait on Friday night for a concert in Trivandrum.



This week on KTV 2



Peter Ustinov (right) stars in Dead Man's Folly.

anti-gravity at university. Report: weekly roundup of world news and views. 7.30 Perspective: documentary on topical subjects. 8.00 News in English. 8.40 A Different World: "Sometimes You Get the Bear, Sometimes the Bear Gets You." Comedy. 9.30 Rediscovers of the World: "The Channel Islands: Waters of Contention." 10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Don't Sell Yourself." A woman and her boyfriend plot to get rid of her husband, and someone is killed. 10.30 French Feature Film: "L'Addition." Starring: Norbert Saad, Richard Berry. Thriller. 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

TUESDAY
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Novelty: cartoon serial
6.30 Break Point: a new series for young viewers

WEDNESDAY
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Transformers: cartoon serial
6.30 Emma and Grandpa: a series for children, based on the story of

a seven-year-old girl and her relationship with her grandfather. 7.00 Prestige: "Sunshine on the Way." A nurse proposes the establishment of a jazz band. 7.30 Mutual of Omaha: "Lemurs of Madagascar." 8.00 News in English. 8.40 You and the Law: local programme. 8.55 Matlock: "The People vs Matlock." Matlock is accused of bribing an official during a trial. Starring: Andy Griffith. 9.40 The Cosby Show: "Home for ... Huxtable's daughter comes home to spend a weekend. Comedy. 10.10 People Do the Craziest Things. 10.30 Feature film: "Murder with Mirrors." Starring: Helen Hayes, Leo McKern, Bette Davis. Charming, high-grade mystery with Hayes, as sleuth Ms Jane Marple. McKern plays the canny inspector, investigating a case at Bette's mansion. Director: Dick Lowry. 104 minutes. 12.35 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

THURSDAY
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Real Ghost: cartoon serial
6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre
7.30 T and T: "The Latest Developments." A municipal official exploits the poor and Mr T is asked to expose him. 8.00 News in English. 8.40 The Oldest Rookie: "Coming from Behind." Samuel is charged with fraud but is acquitted due to lack of evidence. Ike Porter decides to nail him. Starring: Paul Sorvino. 9.40 Incredible Sunday: a look at some of the amazing, unusual and incredible feats performed by men and women around the world. 10.30 Late Night Movie: "Dead Man's Folly." Starring: Peter Ustinov, Jean Stapleton. Based on Agatha Christie's novel, it brings back Belgian detective Hercule Poirot to join a "murder hunt game" at a country estate. 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY
3.30 Holy Quran
3.40 The Sylvanian Family: new cartoon feature for children. 4.00 Italian Football. 5.30 American Basketball. 6.30 Star Trek: "Coming of Age." Someone is trying to break up the team onboard the Enterprise. 7.30 Face to Face. 8.00 News in English. 8.40 Breaking Away. 8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games. 9.40 Weekend: local programme on news and views about Kuwait. 10.00 The Charming: "Lillian's Protege." Lillian is bored with the "disgustingly virtuous" charming family and adopts a wicked, young protégé. Comedy. 10.30 The Aftermath: Part 4. The prime minister is not convinced with the outcome of investigations and orders a fresh probe. 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Al Thaman: Arabic serial. Starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Awadh, Ruhi Al Safi, Iman Kamel.
10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
11.00 Khalafat Qamasha: local Arabic serial. Starring: Khalid Al Nafisi, Hayat Al Fahd, Suad Abdullah, Ghannem Al Saleh, Maryam Ghadban, Ali Mufedi.
12.00 Gulf Cuisine
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Cartoon serial
5.15 Young Artists
5.45 Nazrat Al Alam: documentary

6.00 Ibn Attiya: historical serial. Starring: Majed Afrouni, Shafiq Hassan, Marcel Marina.
7.00 News Summary
7.15 Noor Al Islam: religious programme. Security and Citizens.
7.50 Good Evening
8.30 News in Arabic
9.50 Daerat Al Ahdath: Circle of Events. Industrial Development. Guests are Abdul Baki Abdullah Al Noori, Dr Abdul Aziz Sultan Al Essa. Hosted by Kamel Abdul Jalil.
10.45 Khatbat Al Talatha: Arabic play, starring Mohammad Rida, Karima Mukhtar, Saeed Abdul Ghani, Faeza Kamal, Reshwan Tawfik.
12.15 News Summary
12.20 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

6.30 Scheme of Things: "Wild Life S.O.S." takes a look at efforts to protect animals.
7.00 Sea Urchins: a trip on their sailboat turns out to be more than a carefree adventure for Peter, Nick and Hope.
7.30 Throb: "Something Extra".
8.00 News in English
8.40 Our House: family drama.
9.30 Mysteries of the Pyramids: Omar Sharif introduces part two of this series about the mysteries that surround the pyramids.
10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Dummy." Poignant story about a young black teenager who is deaf-mute and virtually illiterate. Charged with the murder of a prostitute, he is represented by a white lawyer who tries to prove his client's innocence despite the enormous problems of trying to get a statement and proof of innocence from someone who cannot speak and does not understand everything the attorneys say. Director: Frank Perry. 102 minutes. Starring: Paul Sorvino, LeVar Burton, Rose Gregorio, Brian Dennehy. 1979.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Duck Tales: cartoon



Paul Sorvino plays a lawyer in tonight's feature film 'Dummy' on KTV 2 at 10.30 pm.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Shaab Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Hakeem Pharmacy
Jaber Al Mubarak St.
Hawalli and Nuzra
Al Noora Pharmacy
Nr. Burak Mosque, Othman St.
Salamiya and Rumaitiya
Al Quds Pharmacy
Abdul Karim Mazal Bldg., Amman St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Abu Halaif Pharmacy
Coast Road, F'heel
Jeeb Al Shiyookh
Al Salamah Pharmacy
Block 2, Main St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Matafi St.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Lethal Weapon
Starring: Mel Gibson
Al Salamiya
Roxanne
Starring: Steve Martin, Daryl Hannah
Al Hamra
Youn Mir Youm Helu (Arabic)
Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Munir
Drive-In
Ya Azizi... (Arabic)
Starring: Laila Alwi, Saeed Saleh, Osama Abbas
Fahadheel Open-Air
Rooftop Mastana (Hindi)
Al Fahadheel
7 Red Berets
Al Jahra
The Crazy Jungle Adventure

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.10 am
Zuhr	12.02 pm
Asr	3.11 pm
Maghreb	5.34 pm
Isha	6.53 pm

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.
Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.
Arabian Gulf St.
Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.
Saudi House
SAT - THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

CINEMA

French Film Festival
The Kuwait Cine Club and the French Cultural Centre will hold the French film festival at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The programme is as follows:
Feb 11: Family Business (1986), directed by Costas Favras; 110 minutes.
Feb 12: Around Midnight (1986), directed by Bertrand Tavernier; 113 minutes.
Feb 13: Subway (1986) directed by Luc Besson; 104 minutes.
Feb 14: The Murdered House, Georges Lautner; 110 minutes.
Feb 15: The 4 Adventures of Reinette and Mirabelle; directed by Eric Rohmer; 95 minutes.
Feb 18: Elsa Elsa (1985), directed by Didier Haudepin;

80 minutes. All films will be shown at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium. Screening starts at 7.30 pm. Children not admitted.

EXHIBITIONS

Children's Books of the Year '88
UNTIL FEB 16: An exhibition of British books for children, written by award-winning writers and illustrators, will be held at the British Council, Mansouriya.
The programme is as follows: Films: Feb 15 (6 pm): The Amazing Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (cartoon film).
Storytelling Session: A professional story-teller will conduct the sessions. Feb 16 (9.30 - 10.30 am) a session for children - aged seven to 10; (11-12 noon) stories for children aged three to six.
All are welcome. Free admission. But it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association
FEB 15, 8 pm. A fancy dress party and tombola with attractive prizes will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Al Andalus Club. All members of the German-speaking community and their guests are welcome. Tickets available at German embassy, German school and library and for late-comers at the Andalus on Feb 15.

Kuwait Rondels
FEB 16: The Kuwait Rondels Grand Ball '89 will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel. For reservations contact Tel: 5337597.
Bangladesh Association
Feb 23: The Association will hold a discussion followed by a cultural programme to mark the Martyr's Day (Shaheed

Dibosh) at the Bangladesh embassy premises in Jabriya. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Dance Recital
FEB 23 (6.30 pm): A well-known Indian classical dancer Dr Padma Subramanyan will give a Bharata Natya (dance-ballet) recital.

FEB 25 (6 pm): Dr Padma will give a solo-recital called "Jatya Moksham," danced to Tchaikovsky's music. The recital has been organised as part of the Nehru Centenary celebration. Both performances will be held at the IAC, Funtaites. For entry passes contact 3904817.

Gayathri Arts
FEB 25: 10 - 5 pm. The Gayathri Arts organisation for arts and sports will hold a social event to celebrate the Nehru Centenary. Indoor games and competition will be held at the Indian Embassy Hall. **Kuwait Welsh Society**
MARCH 1 (Wednesday): St David's Day buffet-dance will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel at 8 pm. Tickets - KD 6. For reservations phone 3713467.

Gala Dinner
MARCH 9: The Great Ormond Street Hospital Gala Dinner will be held at 8 pm. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

Charity Bazaar
The Kuwait Society for the Handicapped will hold a charity bazaar at its premises, behind Andalus Cinema, Cairo Street. All proceeds will go to the care of the disabled children in Kuwait. It will be open for a week, from tomorrow, during working hours, at the society.

HOTELS

At Messilah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: Birthday Special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

At the Holiday Inn
FEB 15: A special party will be held for the Valentine's Day at the Ballroom. Starts at 8.30 pm.

Every Wednesday is "Sea Drama on Ice" in Al Dana. Enjoy fresh fish and seafood specialties. Thursday night is Indian night featuring exotic Eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharibani Trio.

Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supper Club on Thursday nights.

Friday brunch - fun time for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

At the Sheraton
RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine prepared using home-made pasta; lunch and dinner, evening entertainment by the Sienna's Duo. Closed on Fridays.

Al Hamra: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Tuesday's is Thai Night; Wednesday's: seafood night; musicians provide a blend of music from the East and the West.

Friday's buffet brunch while the children enjoy games in the ballroom next door.

Hunt Room: lunch and dinner rest., specialises in meat and fish dishes.

Le Tarbouche: offers a taste of Lebanon for lunch and dinner.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 to 11 pm.

SPORTS

Five-a-Side Football
Feb 17: The Weekend Club will hold their first annual five-a-side football tournament at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be held on the same day. For entry forms contact M. Dias (Off.) 2460983.

Laser Sailing
FEB 16/17: Messilah Beach open meeting: four race event over two days. All laser sailors wishing to participate please contact David Clark: 4845171/2425947; P. Shepherd: 4845153/5314957; P. Perry - 3924174.

United Goans Centre
FEB 24: The UGC will hold their 10th annual league football tournament. The draw will be held on Feb 16. All KIFF-affiliated teams are requested to contact the organisers for registration.

Mini Rugby
Training and games every Friday at the Ahmadi ground, training starts at 10 am and mini-rugby finishes at 11.30 am. For details call Hugh McArree - 5326368 or Geoff Bennett - 5332683.

Raft Race
The third Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on May 26. Mens/ladies/mixed and carnival events. This year's rules and regulations are available from the Messilah Beach Hotel. The first captains' meeting will be held at the hotel on March 7 (6.30 pm).

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

EVERY noble work is at first impossible — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish writer-historian (1795-1881)

No choice other than to make peace

By John Daniszewski

WARSAW, Poland, (AP): The talks that have begun between Solidarity and the authorities culminate a long and tortuous road of rapprochement since the 1981 martial-law crackdown. Some experts believe the once-bitter enemies now have no choice other than to make peace.

For the first time since the Communist Party consolidated power after World War II, a cross-section of the independent opposition has begun to negotiate openly with authorities over how Poland should be governed, how its political system should be rearranged and its economy managed.

"I am proud that such an unprecedented event in socialist countries is taking place in Poland," said Wanda Paluszewska, an engineer standing outside the palace where the talks were taking place. "This may be really the last chance which may save Poland from bloodshed."

Besides the contingent of worker activists led by Solidarity chief Lech Walesa, the opposition is represented at the table by a spectrum of independent scholars, writers and intellectuals. In all, the pro-Solidarity delegation numbers 25.

Seats
Rounding out the 57 seats are representatives of the ruling Communist Party and two smaller communist-allied parties, government officials, members of the official OPZZ Trade Union Alliance, intellectuals linked to the party and three clerics representing the church.

Hosting the meeting is Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak, the nation's top policeman, who said before the meeting, "I am an optimist by nature. I believe that the debates... will be successful."

Although authorities swore after the 1981 martial-law crackdown that Solidarity never would be allowed to function legally again, the talks — expected to last about six weeks — are aimed at achieving just that.

Officials, faced with a long-deteriorating economy and tired

of the political stalemate, decided in a bitterly split party meeting last month to make peace with the opposition.

They said they hoped the decision would win them public support as they seek further economic sacrifices from the weary populace. They also anticipate a larger measure of sympathy from potential leaders in the West.

Poland desperately needs money for investments, but Western loans, even for small commercial transactions, virtually ceased after the martial-law crackdown. As the price for legalizing Solidarity after more than seven years, authorities are seeking the opposition's endorsement of a economic reform programme and its agreement to participate in the communist-dominated government and parliament.

It is this demand that causes the greatest uneasiness among Solidarity veterans. Walesa has vowed not to accept any compromise that would inhibit the union's independence.

Michael Mandelbaum, an expert on East-West relations at the Council of Foreign Relations, a US think tank, said the talks have great potential significance.

Economic pressures make the move toward national agreement a necessity, Mandelbaum said in an interview in New York last week.

Noting that the communist seizure of power in Poland after World War II precipitated the outbreak of the cold war, he said national agreement in Poland now could contribute to easing of East-West tensions.

Reverse
Authorities in Poland seem "ready to reverse themselves and come to terms with Polish political realities, and it is wonderful news," said Mandelbaum.

Political scientist Charles Gati, an Eastern European expert and professor at Union College in upstate New York, said Polish authorities seem "ready to reverse themselves and come to terms with Polish political realities."

State support makes costly business less expensive

Breeding terrorism

By Ann Peters

HERZLIYYA, Israel, (UPI): Terrorist organisations will remain successful as long as countries provide safe havens and financial aid for them, an Israeli expert on terrorism has said.

The only way to begin to root out terrorism is to complement security measures with political action to stop the aid because "peace and security measures will never suffice," said Ariel Merari, director of the project on terrorism and low-intensity warfare at Tel Aviv's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies.

"Whatever we do... if there is state support for the terrorist groups, the terrorists will always be strongly able to circumvent" security measures, Merari told the first international seminar on aviation security.

Merari said state support of terrorists, including training, arms, finances and safe havens, made the "costly business" less expensive and determined "the level of terrorist capability."

More than 70 people involved in aviation security from 28 countries attended the start of the three-day seminar, sponsored by the Israel Ministry of Transportation. Topics on schedule for discussion included Israel's policy toward terrorism, cost and technology of aviation security, countermeasures and hostage negotiations.

Killing
Deputy Foreign Minister Bin-yamin Netanyahu announced the seminar in December, a week after the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland, killing at least 260 people.

Seminar organisers closed at least two sessions to the media that included demonstrations on how to respond to terrorist acts as well as discussions of terrorist air attacks against Israel. Israel's El Al airline pulled out of the conference more than a month ago, saying it feared classified information might be leaked and terrorists could use the information to their advantage.

Among the first speakers at the

seminar were Netanyahu, Israel's former ambassador to the UN and David Kimche, a former director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

Both men emphasised Israel's need to wage, as Kimche said, "an all-out war" against terrorism because they believed the Palestine Liberation Organisation still sought to destroy Israel despite recent statements by PLO chief Yasser Arafat to the contrary.

In comments when he announced the seminar, Netanyahu charged the PLO was the "pioneer and foremost practitioner" of terrorist attacks against air-planes. He cited the 1968 hijacking of an El Al flight and the 1970 mid-air bombing of a Swiss air flight.

Attacks
Jaffee centre researcher Anat Kurtz said Monday a rash of attacks in 1985 and 1986 by radical Palestinian groups — including the hijacking of a TWA flight and the takeover of the Achille Lauro cruise ship in 1985 — were attempts to disrupt what they perceived were advancements toward a Middle East peace settlement. The attacks subsided when no solution was reached, she said.

Kimche added "Terrorism is international in its nature" for example because members of such organisations ranging from the Red Army of Japan to Action Direct of France had been trained periodically in the Middle East.

Merari said about 90 per cent of the terrorist attacks carried out in the world were within the countries of the groups who perpetrated the violence. A third of the remaining attacks were cross-border terrorism — almost all in the Middle East — and two-thirds of the attacks were on foreign nationals within another country.

Reserve Maj. Gen. Benny Peled, former commander of the Israeli Air Force, took a more radical view of aviation security, saying he was "deeply ashamed and insulted" by the measures needed to ensure no terrorist attacks occurred on airlines.

Starting today, Arab Times will publish a 6-part in-depth study on the changing face of China. Today's story epitomises the grim ordeal and sudden revival of Chinese capitalists.

Communists give rise to class conflicts

By James L. Tyson

YUJIANG, China: From the 11th-floor suite of his company headquarters, Zhang Guoxi looks to the horizon of one of China's poorest provinces and takes a sip of tea in a toast to Lee Iacocca. "In the future I will face a lot of political and financial difficulties, but if I bravely face these challenges then I will be a real man — like Iacocca," said Zhang.

By his own measure, however, Zhang has already proved his manhood several times over.

Building what some officials say is the largest private business fortune in China, he has overcome adversities that could unnervise some of capitalism's most idolized industrialists.

The rags-to-riches climb of Zhang Guoxi is more than a tribute to perseverance and business acumen. His story epitomises the grim ordeal and sudden revival of Chinese capitalists. And it shows how China's Communist Party, seeking swift economic growth in a decade of reform, has created class conflict by nurturing capitalists in its ranks.

Zhang began amassing his wealth — estimated at more than \$20 million by some officials — during the Cultural Revolution, the dark days for Chinese capitalists and other "counter revolutionaries." He sold his house in 1973 for \$380, built a workshop, and recruited a wood-carver to train 21 fellow workers in a defunct garage.

After persuading a state trading company in Shanghai to export his hand-carved chests, Zhang enjoyed a sudden surge of profits that prompted radical zealots to label him a "newborn capitalist thing."

A team of fanatical Maoists dogged him throughout the remaining three years of the chaotic period, criticising his work and obstructing any plans that did not jibe with their iconoclasm. They often disrupted his supply of raw materials and electricity.

When the Communist Party decided in 1978 to exploit rather than continue destroying capitalists, Zhang's workshop gained its first official token of political legitimacy.

In the ensuing decade, economic reform has unleashed go-getters like Zhang and allowed supply and demand instead of government dictates to shape much of the economy. As a result, China has been buoyed to unprecedented prosperity, and Chinese entrepreneurs have enjoyed a heyday unseen in more than four decades.

Zhang employs nearly 3,000 workers in 32 branches in China and seven offices in Japan, West Germany, Hong Kong. While broadening into plastics, garments, pesticides, and electrical fans, his company specialises in furniture, Buddhist shrines, and other finely carved wood and copper decorations made for export at its Yujiang Arts Wood-carving Factory.

King
"I plan to be the world's 'king of carving,'" Zhang said, above the rapid tapping of dozens of carvers turning blocks of wood into Buddhas, pagodas, bearded sages, strutting cranes, and phoenixes in repose.

Ironically, such ambitious entrepreneurs have sprung not from a throwback class of pre-revolution capitalists, but from the government and Communist Party. Zhang is the son of a local communist cadre, has been a member of the party since 1972,



Zhang Guoxi of Yujiang, China, has become a wealthy man by producing intricate carvings.

and is a delegate to China's nominal parliament.

Former party or government officials run about 80 per cent of China's 220,000 private enterprises, said Liang Chunyun, a vice-director of the state administration for industry and commerce. "These people possess the qualities of an entrepreneur because they have a deeper understanding of party and government policy than ordinary citizens and have the right connections," Liang said.

Most members of the new moneyed class, therefore, are snugly tied to China's exclusive political party, despite its legacy of anticapitalism. They have derived political power from business skill and wealth instead

of revolutionary ardour or working-class background.

The small group of emerging merchants and capitalists are as dependent on officialdom as their predecessors in pre-revolution China. Like those earlier business magnates, they have not built industrial and entrepreneurial power free of government control.

Philanthropy

Consequently, like other members of China's nouveaux riches, Zhang must continually cultivate the favour of his communist patrons. He confronts the absurd task of reconciling his growing personal riches with the communist ideal of eliminating private property.

martial arts. Other Chinese entrepreneurs also fear for their safety. After the murder of a model reformist hotel manager in Shenyang in July, the Chinese Entrepreneurs' Association released a statement saying, "As the reforms depend (on us) we are the focus of all kinds of conflict."

"We face every kind of obstacle: illegal slanders, threats and injury," the association said. Moreover, a recently enacted law that legitimises entrepreneurs and their firms "lacks effective measures and concrete regulations," it said.

Communist leaders have done little more to ease the class tension between haves and have-nots than to urge entrepreneurs to seek the protection of the law. They say such conflict is inevitable during the long, "first stage of socialism," in which wealthy private businessmen help build the economy to a level sufficient for a smooth transition to a communist Utopia.

Resentment
Within the walls of his factory complex, Zhang appears to give his workers little cause for resentment. He drives himself from building to building and often wears nothing more ostentatious than a T-shirt.

Workers call Zhang "lao ban," or "boss," an accolade that disappeared during the Maoist era because of class overtones. He trains them in carving and gives them subsidised housing, child day care, lunch, haircuts, a movie twice a week, and a daily cookie. Attending so thoroughly to his workers' material needs, the self-made tycoon with just a grade school education keeps communist ideological training to a minimum. *The Christian Science Monitor.*

Yugoslavs find a way out as economy falters

By Peter Humphrey

BELGRADE, (Reuters): "Can I borrow your passport, sir," asked a Yugoslav girl with a smile.

She needed it for a little duty-free shopping to brighten the gloom of austerity and economic crisis.

Some 700 duty-free shops, officially for foreigners, have opened in Yugoslavia in the past two years, reflecting its inability to provide quality goods as the economy has faltered.

With 290 per cent inflation, Yugoslavia has the worst price spiral in Europe, and the dinar is tumbling daily against hard currencies. A dollar fetches 6,000 dinars, compared with 1,300 a year ago.

Industrial output fell 0.7 per cent in 1988 amid a wave of 1,700 strikes fuelled by inflation. Many enterprises are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Living standards have plunged to 20-year lows, with average monthly pay hovering around a mere \$100 a month. In 1988, wages officially rose only half as fast as prices.

Worthless
Belgrade residents hurl worthless small coins and banknotes into a wishing well on Knez Mihailova shopping street. The smallest banknote is 10 dinars — 600 of them being needed to make a dollar.

The National Bank is soon to print a 100,000 dinar (\$16) note to replace the 50,000 dinar bill as the biggest banknote in circulation.

Poverty in the poorer south has unleashed the worst labour unrest since World War II. But many Yugoslavs in the cities and the richer north of the country

can still afford luxury items.

"We know how to weave our way through the economy chaos," said the girl in the duty-free shop, a 23-year-old student.

She is one of many Yugoslavs who ask foreigners to help them buy imported cigarettes, liquor, cosmetics, electronics and other luxury items for foreign tourists.

An average Scotch whisky in the duty-free shops costs one-third of the price in dinars in regular shops. Other prized wares, such as Parisian neckties, are for sale only in the duty-free shops.

Registered
Purchases are registered on forms showing a customer's passport details. Yugoslavs buy their goods in the foreigner's name.

"If we have the money, why shouldn't we be able to buy these goods," said a duty-free shop assistant.

Official data shows that the duty-free shops, in every city, along every motorway and all down the Adriatic coast, sold \$270 million worth of wares last year, 30 per cent of it net profit.

Millions of tourists and returned Yugoslav emigrants account for many sales. But where do the locals get the cash in a state where everyone is supposed to be paid in dinars?

Currency touts on Belgrade's Slavija Square account for only a fraction. The dinar officially floats free on foreign exchange markets. Black market premiums are minimal, even though there are limits on how much money can be taken abroad.



Yugoslav shop assistant takes details from an American passport, the regular procedure in one of 700 hard currency duty-free shops. (Reuters wirephoto)

Millions of Yugoslavs have relatives working abroad, while other work abroad themselves for short periods of the year.

One million Yugoslavs live as "guest workers" in Western Europe, remitting millions of dollars worth of cash back to their relatives in the country.

Official reports say Yugoslavs at home and abroad have \$30 billion worth of hard currency stashed in foreign and domestic bank accounts, almost one-and-a-half times the country's \$22 billion debt to the West.

Hard currency is the key to a good life. Home owners let their property for hard currency, often taking a full year's rent in

advance. Private property and car sales are invariably conducted in hard currency, the favourite being the West German mark.

Craftsmen demand marks for their services. A transnational Yugoslav bus service recently began charging fares in marks. Croatian strikers asked for wages to be pegged to the currency.

Prime Minister-designate Ante Markovic, who is set to take office in March, hopes to deregulate the socialist economy and revive it with an injection of foreign investment and reforms which will make enterprises profit and export oriented.

India, Pakistan set to launch arms race

By Moses Manoharan

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): The threat of an arms race between India and Pakistan could revive tensions between two countries that only six weeks ago seemed anxious to bury age-old differences.

The competition for high-tech weaponry could sour apparently warm relations between Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Pakistan's new Premier Benazir Bhutto at a summit meeting last December.

Analysts and diplomats say Rajiv may adopt a vote-grabbing bellicose stand ahead of general elections he must call by the end of the year and return to the hardline posture of his mother and predecessor Indira.

In Pakistan, the independent power of the military could force Benazir to mirror the tough policies of former strongman President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, the analysts say.

Even before Pakistani Army chief Mirza Aslam Baig announced on Sunday that Pakistan recently test-fired surface-to-surface rockets, Rajiv had warned that India would take steps to protect itself.

In these circumstances, we cannot sit and watch the situation. We will take necessary steps and not allow the security of our country to be endangered," he said last Friday of reports of the Pakistani test firing.

"This is a very serious development," said a senior Indian government official.

The death of Zia, a former Army chief, in an unexplained plane crash last August, did not ease tensions between the military and Indian politicians in Pakistan, one Indian analyst said.

"There is clearly a high level of tension between the political leadership and the military," said A.P. Venkateswaran of the independent Centre for Policy Research.

"With the realisation of what is going on in Pakistan, no Indian government can afford to be complacent," said Venkateswaran, India's former foreign secretary.

K. Subrahmaniyam, a former head of the government-funded Indian Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, said India had no choice but to go ahead with its own rocket test.

He said the Pakistani missile was too costly and accurate to be carrying a conventional warhead.

Baig said the missiles had a range of 300 km (185 miles) and 80 km (50 miles) and represented a landmark achievement because they and their guidance systems were indigenously produced.

India, which has fought three wars with Pakistan since both became independent of Britain in 1947, tested a nuclear device in 1974 but insists its nuclear programme is peaceful.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1531 — King Henry VIII is recognised as supreme head of the church in England.
- 1543 — England's King Henry VIII signs Treaty of Alliance with Holy Roman Emperor Charles V against France.
- 1744 — Naval battle of Toulon begins between Britain and combined Franco-Spanish fleet.
- 1798 — French forces take Rome.
- 1888 — King Lobengula of Matabele, Rhodesia, accepts British protection.
- 1889 — Constitution is granted in Japan, with two-chamber Diet, but emperor retains extensive powers.
- 1922 — Nine-power treaty is signed in Washington for securing China's independence and maintaining "open door." United States and Japan sign naval agreement.
- 1929 — Lateran Treaty establishes an independent Vatican City.
- 1944 — US carrier planes strike heavy blows against Japanese positions on Eniwetok in Marshall Islands in Pacific during World War II.
- 1956 — Referendum in Malta favours integration with Britain.
- 1958 — Tunisia informs France that French warships no longer can use Bizerta.
- 1963 — United States recognises new government in Iraq after revolt, fighting still going on in provinces three days after uprising.
- 1967 — Military rule is imposed in Beijing during civil strife in China.
- 1968 — Communist troops execute 300 civilians in South Vietnam and bury them in mass grave during fighting for the city of Hue.
- 1971 — Treaty banning nuclear weapons from ocean floor is signed by 63 nations in ceremonies at Washington, London and Moscow.
- 1986 — Jewish dissident Anatoly Shcharansky walks to freedom in Berlin after almost nine years in Soviet captivity on espionage charges, and goes to Israel.
- 1988 — Fresh violence erupts in Bangladesh, bringing death toll from two days of election rioting to 80.

Bon Jovi kick off on world jaunt

Heavy metal group Bon Jovi have hit the road with a show named after the band's current album, New Jersey.

By John Swenson

NEW YORK, (UPI): What promises to be one of the biggest Rock 'n' Roll tours of the year began in earnest last week when Bon Jovi hit the road with the road show named after the band's current album, New Jersey.

The tour is part of a world jaunt projected over the next two years. The first leg began in Europe during the fall, but this ambitious campaign began in humble fashion with the band playing unannounced club dates in the northeast.

"I just packed the boys into a van and did it," explained lead singer Jon Bon Jovi on the eve of the tour. "It was something we needed to do. We had the road manager drive the van like he did before we got signed. It was great, better than rehearsals, no security guards."

"We went up to Woodstock to play one date and only the club owner knew we were coming. We showed up to do a soundcheck, the staff walked in and did a double take. The club only held 150 people. After we played we went to the bar and drank with the folks."

The bulk of the current set is taken from New Jersey and Slippery When Wet. Bon Jovi said that the band has never sounded better alive.

"With 'Slippery' we had been an opening act," he explained, "or headlined in smaller venues, so going into the big arenas and playing the bills was a big change. It was a different. What's great about it is that we feel like we've grown up."

New Jersey reflects that newfound maturity with a stylistic range and musical confidence that makes it the band's best album to date. "I think basically it was a logical progression," said Bon Jovi. Practice makes perfect. The more I get into a studio the

heart and soul of the guitar sound," he said. "We've always believed in the concept that less is more. I'd rather listen to Keith Richards bang out that one great note than listen to the latest heavy metal guitar playing. It's been done, it's been redone and it's been overdone. It seems like every 16-year-old kid is the next Van Halen. I'd rather hear the kind of thing Stevie Ray Vaughan plays."

Blasted

Bon Jovi has been blasted by bad reviews over the years. "I'd be lying if I said I don't read 'em," he admitted. "If you read 'em you'd better believe the band with the good. I've read things that were legitimate criticisms I agreed with."

"It's funny, it's almost as if something that gets a bad review in Rolling Stone will be huge. When 'Slippery' came out Rolling Stone called it cliché, calculated, too commercial, then two months later they want to interview me for a cover story. As soon as Rolling Stone magazine likes me I'm dead."

"What can you do? I'm not trying to compete with Michael Jackson and Madonna. I'm not that person. I play in this great band and I enjoy my work. To think that I'm on the same level of these superstars is hard to swallow."

One of the criticisms of the new album is that Bon Jovi was trying to steal fire from Springsteen by calling it "New Jersey," but the singer insists that garden state is big enough for both of them.

"It's hard to ignore him," Bon Jovi deadpanned, "because he lives in the same town. No, you have to respect not only him but Southside Johnny and Little Steven too. They were definitely an influence on me, how could they not be? I was fortunate enough to be the last guy through the door in that generation."

"I was fortunate enough to see them hanging out in these clubs. I was the house band in 1980 when Bruce was doing his first arena tour. He came in and jammed."

"I do fall victim to some of the criticisms," he said, "because I want everybody to like our music. But I'm not doing all this for the critics. If the kids don't like it they'll let me know."

The album shows a band trying to breathe, to expand from the "pop metal" tag that had been placed on it. It's tougher-edged, more blues-based, and it takes risks. "Lay Your Hands On Me," the dramatic opening track, begins with African drums and an intro that takes a long time to recognise as a Bon Jovi song.

"It just fell into place," said Bon Jovi. "We felt 'Hands' was a show opener. 'Bad Medicine' has that anthem quality. 'Born To Be My Baby' was a way to take Tommy and Gina from 'Living on a Prayer' and finish that. 'Blood on Blood' was a definite way to close."

As for the new sound, Bon Jovi gave a lot of credit to guitarist Richie Sambora. "He's really the



Jon Bon Jovi: 'I'm not competing with Michael Jackson or Madonna. I'm not that kind of person.'

20th anniversary of Woodstock planned

The '69 gathering which featured the most star-studded lineup in rock history, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and the original promoters are planning a tribute to this great musical event.

By John Swenson

NEW YORK, (UPI): The original promoters of the 1969 Woodstock festival have started a 20th anniversary tribute to the legendary event well ahead of time.

The campaign includes a proposed TV documentary, a re-release of the original concert film and a commemorative reunion concert with participating acts to be named in the near future.

The original promoters of the event, John Roberts and Joel Rosenman, have been selling tickets and posters from Woodstock 1969 with the help of promoter Steve Gold.

Just as Roberts and Rosenman contracted Michael Lang and Artie Kornfeld to put together the original festival, they've enlisted outside help for the commemorative event.

Gold, who was at the original Woodstock festival, said the project is the realization of a lifelong dream.

"It was in my home town," said Gold, "and feeling-wise it was the best thing that ever happened to me. I approached John and Joel, the original producers of Woodstock, to do a 20th anniversary celebration."

Roberts and Rosenman were sitting on more than 4,000 posters advertising the festival at Walkill, a site which was later abandoned. They asked Gold to put together a merchandising programme for them.

The interest in the merchandise is shocking, said Gold. "Most of the mail order requests are coming from 14- to 21-year-olds. To them Woodstock was the greatest thing that ever happened."

Gold has sold about 10,000 original Woodstock festival tickets through the mail at \$35 each, as well as 500 posters at \$150 each.

Part of the proceeds from the

sales will go to a rehabilitation centre for musicians suffering from alcohol and drug dependency, located about 10 miles (16 km) from the actual Woodstock festival site.

Also in the works is a reunion concert. "Other people can put on concerts," said Gold, "but they can't call them Woodstock, because we own the rights to the name and the logo. We envision a worldwide event taking place over a three- or four-week period. There will be a 20th anniversary concert."

"We'll start off with a grass roots buildup in April. The 20th anniversary show will span a few continents. You're never going to recreate the actual Woodstock concert. It was spontaneous. It was magic and it can't happen again the same way."

"But we want to do something major and share it with the world."

The only artist scheduled to appear so far is Richie Havens, but Gold plans a major announcement "in the near future." Until then, we don't want to leak anything."

The '69 gathering featured the most star-studded lineup in rock history, including the Who, Jimi Hendrix, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Janis Joplin, the Jefferson Airplane, Sly and the Family Stone, Santana and the Grateful Dead.

Intriguingly, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young have just reunited, the Who are rehearsing for a comeback and the Jefferson Airplane are rumoured to be planning a reunion. None of them have announced plans to be at a Woodstock reunion, but the possibility exists.

But not everyone is enthusiastic about the idea. The town board of Bethel, New York, where the event took place on a farm owned by the late Max Yasgur, voted unanimously earlier this year to ban any live commemorative concert.

Paula Abdul shoots straight up US charts

NEW YORK, (AP): Straight Up was the path that took Paula Abdul to the top of the single pop record charts in the United States. The hit disc was in second spot a week ago.

Sheriff's When I'm With You slipped from number one to second place on the Cash Box magazine chart. Born to be my Baby by Bon Jovi moved up one notch to third.

Last week's number three hit, Armageddon It by Def Leppard, topped to seventh.

New to the top 10 list this week was The Lover In Me by Sheena Easton, up from 12th to 9th and She Wants to Dance With Me by Rick Astley, up from 13th to 10th.

Alabama's Song of the South stayed on as number one on the Cash Box magazine country-and-western singles chart. What I'd Say by Earl Thomas Conley was second, and Holly Dunn's (It's Always Gonna Be) Someday was third.

Top Ten US

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) Straight Up—Paula Abdul (Virgin).
2. (1) When I'm With You—Sheriff (Capitol).
3. (4) Born to be my Baby—Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).
4. (6) When The Children Cry—White Lion (Atlantic).
5. (7) Wild Thing—Tone Loc (Delicious Vinyl).
6. (5) The Way You Love Me—Karyn White (Warner Brothers).
7. (3) Armageddon It—Def Leppard (Mercury-Polygram).
8. (8) All This Time—Tiffany (MCA).
9. (12) The Lover In Me—Sheena Easton (MCA).
10. (13) She Wants to Dance With Me—Rick Astley (RCA).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Song of the South—Alabama (RCA).
2. (2) What I'd Say—Earl Thomas Conley (RCA).
3. (3) (It's Always Gonna Be) Someday—Holly Dunn (MTM).
4. (5) Sing Dixie—Dwight Yoakam (Warner Brothers-Repertoire).
5. (6) Big Wheels in the Moonlight—Dan Seals (Capitol).
6. (4) Burnin' a Hole in My Heart—Skip Ewing (MCA).
7. (8) Life as We Knew it—Kathy Mattea (Mercury).
8. (11) Highway Robbery—Tanya Tucker (Capitol).
9. (14) I Still Believe in You—Desert Rose Band (MCA-Curb).
10. (10) She Reminded me of You—Mickey Gilley (Airborne ABS).

In London, Gene Pitney's re-release of Something's Gotten Ahold of my Heart with British singer Marc Almond topped the British pop singles chart for the third week in a row.

The Last of the Famous International Playboys by Morrissey came from off the charts to soar into second place, with The Living Years by Mike and the Mechanics dropping a notch to number 3.

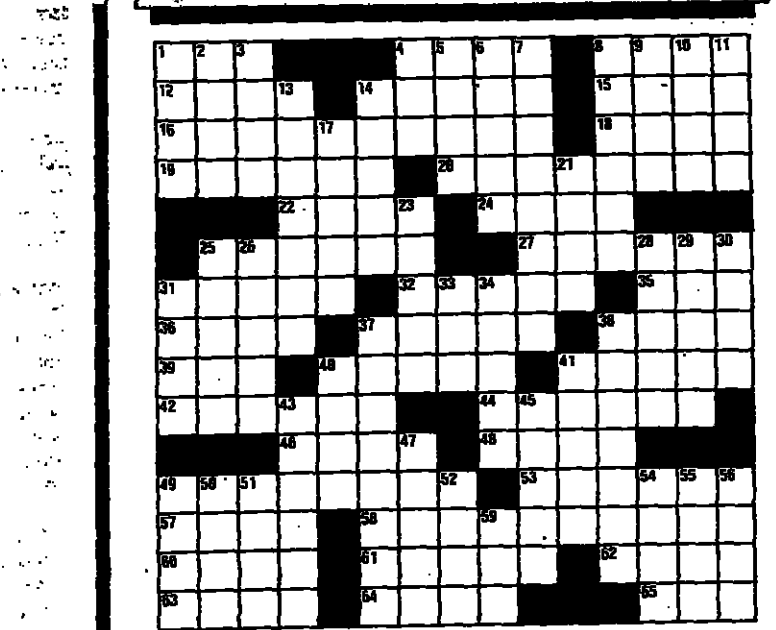
Two other new songs made it into the top 10 this week—Wait by Robert Howard and Kym Mazelle and My Prerogative by Bobby Brown.

Top Ten UK

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) Something's Gotten Ahold of my Heart—Marc Almond and Gene Pitney—Parlophone.
2. (-) The Last of the Famous International Playboys—Morrissey (EMI).
3. (2) The Living Years—Mike and the Mechanics (WEA).
4. (3) Cuddly Toy—Roachford (CBS).
5. (3) You Got It—Roy Orbison (Virgin).
6. (6) Love Train—Holly Johnson (MCA).
7. (8) That's The Way Love is—Ten City (Atlantic).
8. (16) My Prerogative—Bobby Brown (MCA).
9. (5) She Drives me Crazy—Fine Young Cannibals (London).
10. (11) Wait—Robert Howard and Kym Mazelle (RCA).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Nabokov novel
 - 4 Move by small degrees
 - 8 Purchase consideration
 - 12 Mexican War president
 - 14 Inscribed stone slab
 - 15 Neighbor of Mont.
 - 16 General president
 - 18 Use scythes
 - 19 Cannery worker
 - 20 New York State spa
 - 22 Holiday song
 - 24 Board game piece
 - 25 Things to be done
 - 27 Indian noble
 - 31 Coagulates
 - 32 Pang
 - 35 Mrs. McKinley
 - 36 Forever and —
 - 37 Buffalo player
 - 38 Request humbly
 - 39 Transgression
 - 40 Inclinations
 - 41 Sweet liqueur
 - 42 Fragrances
 - 44 Misplays
 - 46 Location
 - 48 Ticket holder's guarantee
 - 49 Whig president
 - 53 Afternoon snooze
 - 57 Ogive molding
 - 58 Surveyor president
 - 60 What some reporters do
 - 61 English chemist: 1877-1945
 - 62 Sunup area
 - 63 Plumbing problem
- DOWN**
- 5 Boys' org.
 - 9 Primates
 - 10 Part of DIY
 - 11 Likewise
 - 13 Actor Robert —
 - 15 Television feature
 - 16 Athletic shoe attachment
 - 17 One-month president
 - 18 Human-rights president
 - 19 Margarine
 - 20 Kind of party
 - 21 Bark cloth
 - 23 Martyred president
 - 14 Particle
 - 17 City brighteners
 - 21 It's a sin to tell —
 - 23 Man from Managua
 - 25 Account statement
 - 26 Union general president
 - 28 More dreadful
 - 29 Second or sixth president
 - 30 Mythical Martha
 - 31 Home, in Honduras
 - 33 Missouri pres.
 - 34 The Wars of the —
 - 37 Gift
 - 38 Careerist with a mentor
 - 40 Hat part
 - 41 Jeanne of the movies
 - 43 Dormant
 - 45 Pine tree emission
 - 47 Take out
 - 49 Unelected president
 - 50 Stravinsky
 - 51 Tribe of Israel
 - 52 Props.
 - 54 Make a — (try)
 - 55 Pitch
 - 56 Rectangular pier
 - 59 Just off the press

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A Q 9 8 7 3 2 ♥ J 9 4 ♦ 9 ♣ A 3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

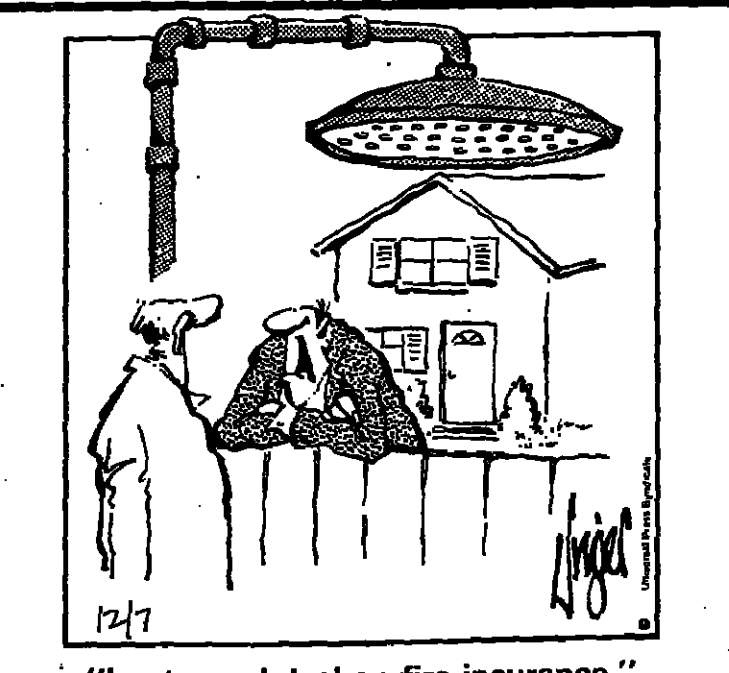
Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q 7 4 3 2 ♥ Q 5 3 ♦ 7 6 ♣ Q 8 3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J ♥ A K Q J 10 9 3 ♦ Q 4 ♣ A 5 2
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
3 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A 9 7 3 ♥ 9 5 4 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ A Q 5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 6 ♥ A K Q 10 2 ♦ A 7 ♣ K J 10 6 4
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ K 9 4 3 ♥ A 6 ♦ A J 8 6 5 2 ♣ Void
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?



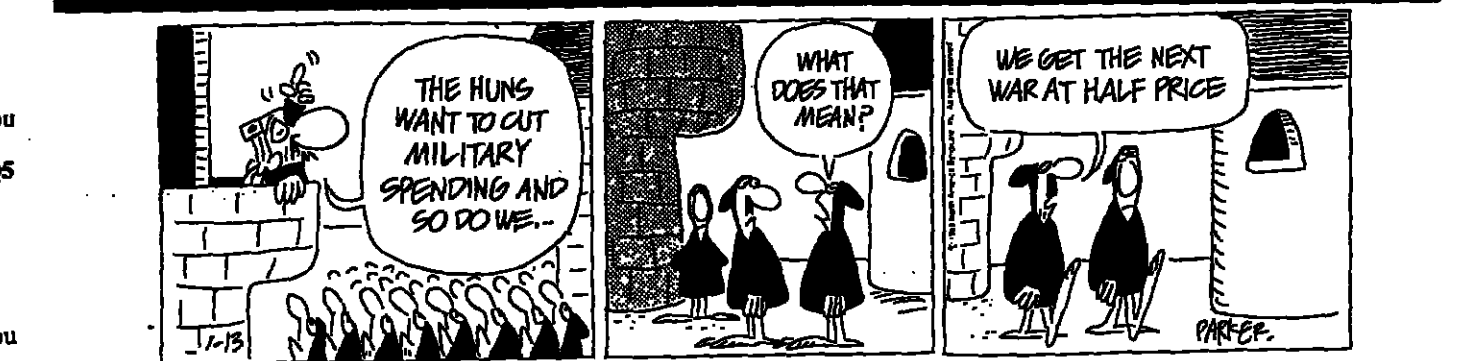
"I get a real deal on fire insurance."

"He only listens to me when I'm talking to someone else."

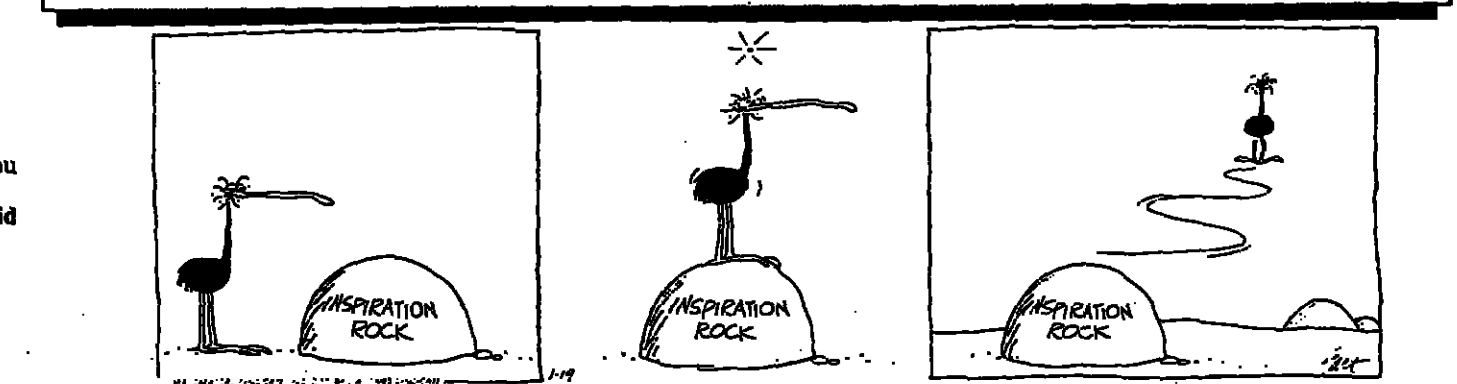
"Does this mean I don't get a raise, sir?"

"Have you a magazine without a diet in it?"

THE WIZARD OF ID



By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
- The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to put two and two together to make four. You will find it easier to stay on good terms with others. Take steps to avoid putting on weight. Be selective.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
- The Moon's influence will help you to deal with new circumstances. You will have something to be pleased about. Do not permit others to dictate to you. Be prompt.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
- You will have greater freedom of action and will know the right thing to do. You are rather more liable to lose your way. If you trust too much to luck you will be disappointed. Be reasonable.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
- You should use all the common-sense you can summon up. You will be able to do something very much to your liking. Do not expect others to agree with all you say and to be at your bid and call. Be cordial.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
- The Moon's less favourable influence will tend to render you more moody. You are more liable to indignation so avoid too fatty or stodgy foods just now. Do not do anything that would upset the harmony with your partner.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
- The Moon's better influence will help you to make a few necessary concessions. You will tend to be a little on the nervous side and you should avoid getting into an argument.
- Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)**
- You will be able to do something that really interests you, but do not neglect what does not so much. You should not try to sweep a fact that has to be faced sooner or later under the carpet. Avoid taking chances with your health.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**
- There is no need to lose faith in yourself, so do not. Do not allow some slightly unusual event to put you off your stride. Take care you do not spend more than you can readily afford. Be frugal.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
- There will be some 'butterflies in your stomach' but you will know how to deal with them. You should avoid acting on impulse nor should you allow some prejudices to blur your judgement. Try to show a little more goodwill towards others.
- Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19**
- The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to do the right thing at the right time. You should not allow yourself to be invaded by negative thoughts. You should try to dispel gloomy thoughts. Be tactful.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
- You will be able to effect a reconciliation with a friend from whom you have become estranged. You will be able to avoid falling into a trap. Make sure you look out for what is behind you when on the road. Be adept.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
- At first you will not be in the best of moods but later you will be more like your usual self. Not everything will be to your liking, but you will know how to make the best of things. Avoid spending too heavily on trivialities. Be considerate.

A tragico-farical tale of the Shah's last days

The world's most unwanted refugee

By Prabhu S. Gupta

NOT ALL that long ago the Shah of Iran was a name to conjure with. In 1971, for example, the Shah gave a party that outlasted all other social occasions of our time.

Nine kings, three ruling princes, two crown princes, 13 presidents, 10 sheikhs, and two sultans — not to enumerate galaxies of vice-presidents, prime ministers, ambassadors, and the rest — journeyed to the ruins of Persepolis, the ancient city built by the biblical King Darius.

All the provisions for the party (except the Iranian caviar) were imported from France. The guests stayed in a city of tents designed by Jansen, each of which had two bedrooms, two marble bathrooms and a small chic sitting room, with hot plates for breakfast, and refrigerators for drinks. The hairdressers were flown in from Paris. Baccarat designed the crystal goblets, the place settings were by Ceralene, the linens by Porthault, and Robert Haviland produced a cup-and-saucer service to be used just once by arriving guests. Iran's per capita income was only \$500 a year, but \$300 million may have been spent on the festivity.

The oil price rise — partly engineered by the Shah — was still to come, but the country's enormous wealth only spread further disappointment among Iran's millions, while offering fabulous opportunities of corruption to the court and to the Shah's family. For the Shah himself brought a complete divorce from reality, as he became increasingly obsessed with weaponry, with his own kingdom, and with notions of his divinely-inspired relationships with the Iranian people.

Corruption

One reason for the increase of corruption was that, under the Shah, ambitious Iranians could achieve no political power. Whatever authority they had, as ministers, governors or university chancellors, all derived from the Shah. Moreover, it was a loan, not a gift — and it was regularly recalled. The alternative to becoming powerful was that Iranians could become rich. Because it was a substitute for power, their new-found wealth had to be displayed as competitively as possible.

Never in a Third World coun-



A soldier kisses the hand of the late Shah of Iran as he prepares to leave his homeland, never to return again.

try have European and American dressmakers, luxury car manufacturers, executive jet salesmen, art brokers, wine merchants, furriers, jewellers, done so well as in Iran in the Seventies. Meanwhile, Tehran became one of the nastier capitals of a world. Traffic jammed to a halt. Power cuts were frequent. Tempers became uncontrollable. Envy was rampant. Kickbacks, bribes, Samsonite briefcases packed with hundred-dollar bills hand-carried on executive jets, secrets orders and counter-orders conveyed in private meet-

ings with the Shah — this was the stuff of which business was made.

As for ordinary Iranians, there was nothing they could do except pray for an end to the circus. The increasing development of Iran was overloading the capacity of the Shah's personal, private system of government: good management is not compatible with highly centralized dictatorship.

More and more use had to be made of coercion and control. The state became increasingly dependent upon SAVAK, Iran's dreaded secret police, which

came to be counted in the same league as BOSS, the CIA, and the KGB.

Such organizations can keep decisive regimes in power. A firmer hand, though unpalatable to the West, might have preserved the throne. Paradoxically, the Shah's overweening self-confidence was founded on America's entire and enthusiastic approval of his governance. In 1972, when his own people began to reject him, he did not know what to do.

All this background material is woven by Shawcross into a fully-detailed account of the Shah's tragic and painfully funny last ride, when he wandered from country to country for some 18 months, the world's most famous and probably most unwanted refugee.

Indefatigable industry and a consistent eye for the ironies of history mark this biography. Shawcross seems to have read every one of the numerous books available in English, and often goes beyond his sources in his understanding of events. However, he often fails to recognize the importance of his observations, leaving his comments as hints, buried in the dross.

Result

The result is a large and detailed book, slow and sometimes over-rich, keen to leave the absorbing main performance to follow all the tempting side-shows. All the theories about all the controversies are here.

However, Shawcross does manage the difficult work of keeping our interest while revealing the Shah's ambivalence as a ruler: he believed, correctly, that foreign powers were trying to manipulate Iran. Yet he himself became dependent on those same manipulators; he felt an impulse in himself and his people towards modernization and reform — yet there was a corresponding conservatism. The story of the fall and the exile is naturally full of human interest, while the details of the utterly tragico-farical tale of the Shah's mistreatment by doctors and politicians in exile, and his inglorious death, leave one laughing with pain, gasping with pity.

The Shah's Last Ride by William Shawcross, Chatto & Windus, £15.95

At 81, Moravia still controversial

By Andrew Gumbel

ROME, (Reuters): Sixty years after the publication of his first book, Italian novelist Alberto Moravia is still turning out controversial bestsellers which trace the inner turmoil and sexual anxieties of the Roman middle classes.

Now 81, the grand old man of Italian literature has no intention of slowing up his steady output of novels, short stories, and essays, which have been widely translated around the world. "I'll carry on as long as I have the strength to write. I can't think of any other way to pass the time," Moravia said in an interview at his home.

He has no intention of retiring. "Writers can't retire because they are not part of a bureaucracy. Writers retire only when they die."

His latest novel *Il Viaggio a Roma* (The Journey to Rome), which has stayed high in Italian bestseller lists since it was published in November, explores many familiar Moravian themes.

The 20-year-old Mario returns to Rome for the first time since early childhood, having been brought up in Paris by his divorced mother, who has died.

When his father shows him round the house where he had lived as a young boy, he suddenly remembers peeping through a living room door at the age of five and seeing his mother having sex with a stranger on the sofa.

Memory

The memory of his dead mother becomes an obsession tinged with incestuous feelings which Mario believes he can exercise only by re-enacting the scene with his father's new fiancée.

The characters' brooding apathy and frustrated explorations of sex are shown as part of a wider struggle to find their place in a world from which they feel alienated.

Moravia, who once said he had been profoundly bored with life since the age of five or six, explained: "I have only one theme: the relationship between myself and reality. It's a very difficult relationship."

The enduring popularity of his work despite his introverted and philosophical approach is perhaps due to his readable style and knack of expressing his characters' anxieties in graphic, often perverse images.

"One must try to say complicated things in a clear way,"

Moravia said.

Ever since the publication of *Gli Indifferenti* (Time of Indifference), his first and many would say his finest book, in 1929, Moravia's work has attracted outrage and censure.

He was stopped from publishing in 1942 by the government of fascist dictator Benito Mussolini, which accused him of immorality. His books were later placed on the Vatican's index, a now defunct list of forbidden reading for Roman Catholics.

Nevertheless, many of his books have inspired successful films, notably *Il Conformista* (The Conformist) directed by Bernardo Bertolucci and *La Ciociara* (Two Women) by Vittorio De Sica. Four of the films have been remade for television.

Moravia seems almost indifferent to his own success, and talks of writing as a game to keep himself amused.

"I don't write for the public or for television or for the theatre. I write for myself, for my own satisfaction," he said.

His apartment, in a staunchly middle class area of Rome overlooking the Tiber, is reminiscent of the settings for many of his books.

A maid leads visitors into a

series of elegantly furnished rooms where Moravia lives with his 34-year-old Spanish wife Carmen, who he married in 1986.

Through the fifth floor window is a view of the quarter where *Il Viaggio a Roma* is set, including a park where several of the characters meet secretly.

Apart from nine months spent in hiding in a mountain village after German forces occupied Rome during World War Two, Moravia has lived in Rome all his life and it figures strongly in his books.

Debate

Recently he contributed to a fiery debate about the city sparked off by Turin historian Luigi Firpo who said Rome had become impossible to live in and that the Romans were unbearably vulgar and arrogant.

Following much press and public argument on the issue, Moravia said in one of his weekly columns in the *Corriere della Sera* newspaper that Rome was in a permanent state of decay and its monuments had been atrociously abused and revered throughout history.

The decadence which hangs over his novels can perhaps be explained by this view.

A revealing biography of Nehru

By John Grigg

ONE of this year's anniversaries will be that of Jawaharlal Nehru's birth, so a new biography of him was to be expected.

M.J. Akbar adds little of substance to Sarvepalli Gopal's impressive official life (a paperback edition of which should also be appearing this year); but it is a lively and thoroughly readable account, with the special interest of being written by an Indian Muslim.

Nehru is one of the most fascinating of all great men, and he was, of course, primarily a public figure. Yet his fascination consists above all in the inwardness of his character, and the way the personal side of his life interacts at every stage with the public.

He wrote very well about himself in a famous autobiography, but this was written in the 1930s. Since then nothing so revealing has been written about him, and it is unlikely that any Indian will be able to discuss his personal life with the necessary frankness so long as the Nehru dynasty remains in power.

Story

Apart from a story about his being caught in a clinch with Edwina Mountbatten — which is not really of much importance one way or the other — Akbar's book is on the whole rather more reticent on sensitive matters than Dr Gopal's.

In particular, it does nothing like justice to the complexity of his relations with his daughter, Indira, or to the strange, overweening role of his special assistant, M.O. Mathai.

The significance of Gandhi's support of him is clearly stated but never adequately

explained. It was indeed, Gandhi who ensured that he would become the leader of independent India. But why should the religious, ascetic, anti-modern and, on the face of it, so Indian Mahatma have chosen as his chief lieutenant a socialist intellectual who was agnostic, scientifically minded and intensely anglicised?

One major reason, which Akbar does bring out, is that Nehru shared to the full Gandhi's passionate desire to rid India of communalism; and the very fact that he was opposed to religion made his commitment to a secular Indian state that much more reliable.

As India's first prime minister Nehru achieved the prodigious feat, still too little recognised, of laying an industrial base in conditions of political freedom.

Mistake

Despite vast difficulties and innumerable pressures, he remained on the whole faithful to his democratic and secular ideals. Yet the India that he led after independence was only the larger portion of the India for whose freedom he had fought.

Akbar regards partition as the great failure of Nehru's career, and to the extent that he shares responsibility for that event, he must be said to have contributed to the unmaking, rather than the making, of India.

Nehru's mistake was to have underrated the force of communalism in India, believing that social and political issues would take precedence. Though it is true as Akbar says, that the leaders of Congress did not use against Muslims the language of hate it is equally true that few leading Congressmen were as



Jawaharlal Nehru

singleminded in their anticommunalism as Gandhi and Nehru were.

Congress' "Quit India" campaign in 1942 was the fatal watershed. A direct challenge to British rule at a critical moment in the war, it led to the incarceration of the Congress leadership, while giving the Muslim leader Jinnah the chance to expand his movement.

The campaign was an act of

folly, but Nehru, though certainly unhappy about it, had in the circumstances no choice but to follow Gandhi.

In any case the worse folly was that of the British who, instead of making Nehru the wartime ally he so fervently wished to be, drove him into the then-unwelcome role of rebel.

NEHRU: The Making of India by M.J. Akbar, Viking, 604pp, £17.95.

Anti-male bias toned down

What women are writing about today

By Virella Patil

ALMOST thirty years ago, Simone de Beauvoir started the feminist movement when she wrote her controversial book *The Second Sex*.

Germaine Greer and Kate Millet followed with their research and soon the floodgates of feminist literature opened to bring into the publishing arena books in every language, on every aspect of women's lives, their rights, their traditional roles and their yearning for change and progress.

Three decades have passed since then. Two new generations of women — have grown-up, married, held down careers and redesigned their lives and destinies to suit the lifestyle of the coming new century.

Somewhere along the hazardous and uphill route to liberation, much of the early anger of women has melted away.

Feminism

Their anti-male bias has been toned down and the books that are now being published are reflecting this change. The rabidly feminist feminism of the sixties, the strident call for an all out fight of the seventies; the eighties are a decade of self-assessment, of gains in wisdom and experience.

By Galina Vromen

THE HAGUE, (Reuters): A new award-winning movie and book are providing an insight into the last months of Anne Frank, whose poignant diary made her a symbol of the human suffering inflicted by the Nazis.

In accounts collected by Dutch filmmaker Willy Lindwer, seven witnesses tell how Anne died of typhus and starvation, a broken person, in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in northwest Germany in March 1945.

Anne Frank's diary chronicles her life over the two years during which she and her family hid in an annex of her father's Amsterdam office, but ends with their arrest by the Nazis in August 1944.

"It disturbed me that the final months of her life were ignored as if what happened to her in hiding was all that was important," Lindwer, 42, said in an interview at his home near the Amstel River outside Amsterdam.

Reprinted

His film, *The Last Seven Months of Anne Frank*, first broadcast on Dutch television last May, won the 1988 Emmy Award in the United States for best international documentary. A book by the same name, containing the full interviews he conducted with Dutch women who knew Anne in concentration camps, was published in November.

The book has been reprinted twice in the Netherlands and Lindwer is negotiating to sell rights in West Germany, France, Italy and the United States.

"When you hear how this girl, Anne, suffered in her last seven months, you understand that she

Three samples of feminine writing illustrate what has happened in recent years. The women writers and the books they have written, in a sense, reflect the spectrum of feminine thinking in the recent past.

One of the areas in which women writers have made strides is science fiction. Sarah Lefanu, Gwyneth Jones, Lisa Tuttle and Pamela Zoline are four British novelists who have used the new wave of Sci-fi to promote their

Among these, Sarah Lefanu has a checked lister. Thrown out of her convent school for atheist thinking, Sarah grew up in Scotland, Uganda and Kenya and went to Cambridge college. A left winger, she worked for North Vietnamese charities and later came to write her brand of Sci-fi.

Answering the charge that women are not hi-tech persons, Lefanu asserts that feminism and the women's movement have made female science fiction a great success. Sarah's own book *World Machine* sets out her iconoclastic views of how women survive in a male dominated world.

A senior editor at the Women's Press, Lefanu works part-time, has a new baby and wrote the book while pregnant.

"Only discipline can help you to do all these things together," she says.

At the other end of the spectrum is Susie Guppy's book *The Blindfold Horse* which describes her childhood in pre-protestant Persia — not the Iran of the Ayatollahs.

Susie left her home to study in Paris and joined a group of writers and poets. A quick marriage to writer Nicholas Guppy took her to live in a remote village in the north of France, and she was unable to speak French with anyone. Susie laboriously learnt English when her marriage broke up and in search for a meaningful freedom, she came to London.

She made a record of Persian songs and began to write for various journals. She wrote her successful book and moved into an apartment in Chelsea.

Exile

She writes literary reviews, features and edits the *Paris Review*. And yet, she lives like an exile in Britain, "making no demands," on an alien society. As an outsider, she works harder to do better. "An outsider can't take anything or anyone for granted," she says.

Susie Guppy's book is proof that a woman leaving everything for a husband and children can lose all, can yearn for her childhood home and can live alone

and do fruitful work. As she says, "I have kept my freedom and my sovereignty but I have paid the price."

Perhaps the book that shakes some of the feminists' theories by the roots is written by Marianne Grabruckner *There's a Good Girl, Women's Press*.

Grabruckner discusses painfully the concept of a child's upbringing. Can we really bring up a boy to feel like a girl? Or a girl like a boy? "Does a boy instinctively want a car, and a girl a doll? Does a girl like to be in a condition?" Grabruckner's answer would shock many women.

Sensitive wires

"Children are like sensitive wires," she says, they pick up every message and learn roles even before a parent can begin to condition them."

Grabruckner says that her daughters, despite her different and revolutionary inputs, turned out to be pink-dressed-pink filled "little girls" and her sons weilded toy swords. This has proved she admits, that, we as parents pass on unexpressed images of ourselves to our progeny.

Our very existence is the message the children pick up and no amount of layering of other ideas over this deep but fundamental thought can ever change the balance of nature, she says.

New book and film fill gaps in Anne Frank's diary

A film, *The Last Months of Anne Frank*, won an Emmy award in the United States for best international documentary. A book by the same name has been released recently, based on accounts by witnesses who knew Anne in the Bergen-Belsen camp.

When Pick Goslar received a Red Cross package in February 1945, she threw biscuits over the fence to Anne and then heard her scream because another woman had grabbed them.

Janny Brandes-Brilleslijper, who was with the Frank girls in the three camps, remembered Anne during her last days as racked with delirium from typhus.


"Anne stood wrapped in a blanket before me. She had no more tears. None of us had any tears left, and she told me she had thrown away all her clothes because she couldn't stand the beast (bugs) in them any more," Brandes-Brilleslijper recalled.

"It was in the middle of the winter, I scraped up anything I could find to give her something to wear...and I gave Anne a bit of our bread ration."

"Two days later, I went by to see the girls. They were dead. Margot lay out on the bed onto the stone floor and never got up again. Anne died a day later."

Another witness, Rachel van Amerongen Frankfoerder, said the Frank girls had the worst place in the barracks — right by the door. "You always heard them shouting to close the door, and every day the call was a bit weaker...you saw them slowly dying," she said.

"Their end came, I don't know who dragged them out. I didn't pay any special attention, there were so many others who were also dying. Death was the order of the day in Bergen-Belsen."

**FAMILY DOCTOR**
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

WAYS TO ALLEVIATE ANKLE SWELLING

QUESTION: By the end of the day my ankles swell considerably, making it difficult to keep my shoes on. They seem better in the morning, but there must be something I can do to relieve this problem. Can you offer some advice?

ANSWER: I will be happy to offer some tips, after I have presented a word or two of caution. While a frequent cause of swollen ankles and legs may be poor circulation in your extremities, there are other medically important reasons for this accumulation of fluid.

If you have not consulted your physician and if this is a new problem, a visit to your doctor is a must. Medications may be necessary to properly control this situation. However if the doctor's visit already has taken place, be sure to take your medications properly. Here, now, are a few practical tips that may make the task of keeping excess fluid out of your legs a little easier.

First, maintain a low-salt diet, for salt tends to keep fluid in our system. Check all labels and avoid foods that are high in sodium or preserved in salt. Foods like bacon, corned beef, smoked fish, pickles and

tomato sauces containing high levels of salt should be avoided. Sleep with your legs elevated either by elevating your bed or by placing your legs on pillows or cushions. Six-inch wood blocks slipped under the bed legs (at the foot) are recommended since the cushions may become displaced during sleep.

Elastic stockings are great aids, if you use them properly. They should be of high quality and well fitting, and reach above your knees to the mid thigh. Take them off only when retiring for the night, but take them off every night. They should be replaced in the morning, BEFORE you get out of bed and before you have let your feet dangle, for that is the time when the fluid in your legs is lowest, and when it is easier to control the situation.

A gentle massage of your legs each night, using an upward, "milking" stroke can help remove excess fluid as well. Start with short strokes, gradually lengthening them until your hands are massaging as much of your foot and leg as you can reach. Of course having a partner to help you with this makes it a whole lot easier. Remember to report

any new developments or pain to your physician.

QUESTION: Three weeks ago I ruptured my left biceps. Now I get an abnormal bulge when I flex my arm. It causes no discomfort, but I am wondering if surgery is necessary since it does not interfere with my normal activities. I am 64 years old.

ANSWER: The biceps is a most interesting and important muscle. Its name comes from the fact that it has two major parts, or heads (bi, meaning two, cept, meaning heads), separate masses of muscle, which start from two origins in the shoulder but end in a single ligament attached to the radius, a bone of the forearm. While its major function is to lift the lower arm towards the body, it also helps to twist the lower arm.

It's a strong muscle, but it was never designed so that just one head could manage the work normally assigned to two. You have been fortunate in not taxing the muscle so far, but the damage needs to be fixed. The operation is not complicated, and in my opinion, it's necessary for a man your age.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Share prices still near crash of '87 lows

Hopes for better future persist at Istanbul Stock Exchange

ISTANBUL, Feb 10, (Reuters): Brokers have shut up shop and share prices are still near crash of '87 lows on the Istanbul Stock Exchange but hope persists that the New Year boom in world equity markets will not pass Turkey by.

Despite the average 37-per cent decline in Turkish stock prices in 1988, the fledgling Istanbul exchange has reported some modest progress.

High
"Last year the market was completely bearish," stock exchange chairman Muharrem Karsli said in an interview. "It's now relatively bullish. We hope 1989 will be the first week in February to 390 from 375 at the end of 1988."

Based at 100 when the market was re-established in a new build-

ing beside the Bosphorus in 1986, the index shot to a speculative-driven high of 1,332 in August, 1987, and crashed to a low of 362 that October.

Share values were further dented by interest rates that hit 85 per cent last October, an annual inflation rate that peaked at 87 per cent in November and a flood of stock rights issues by cash-strapped companies.

Institutional investors have stayed clear of the market. At times, some local "equity funds" have less than a quarter of their capital actually in equities, exchange officials say.

Two brokers have withdrawn from the market and another five may be considering doing so. No new applications have been received for several months to join the 78 brokers still with

seats, stock exchange sources said.

"There is no liquidity ... in the market," said one exchange official.

Prior to the re-establishment of the Istanbul Stock Exchange in 1986, a bourse existed in name only. It had been created by the government in the great crash year of 1929 as the "Istanbul stock and foreign currency exchange," but became inoperative.

Hopes

Stocks were traded for years on an under-the-counter basis among dealers who gathered in Vakifhan, a commercial building in the city. It had no meeting rooms or trading floors and there was no official quotation system.

Long-term hopes for the new

market are pinned to a belief that both inflation and interest rates are coming down and the government has gained better control of foreign exchange, which has been a favourite investment vehicle in Turkey.

Exchange officials and buyers are also hoping that the all-powerful Treasury will let foreign venture funds bring fresh liquidity to the Turkish market.

Problem

"There are now 10 to 15 funds waiting, worth \$300 million to 400 million," Karsli said. "Even one-tenth of this figure would make a big difference."

The launch in New York of a \$60 million Turkey fund underwritten by the International Finance Corporation has been delayed to mid-year, but officials

point out only a small part of the fund was to be invested through the exchange.

Another problem is the small proportion of shares in the largely family-controlled companies traded on the market — an average of only seven per cent of the capital value of companies listed at the exchange to 356, the figures showed.

Turnover is also tiny in international terms, averaging only \$89 million lira (\$310,000) a day in 1988, a rise of only 38 per cent from 1987 despite 75 per cent inflation, the exchange's 1988 figures released on Wednesday said.

Market capitalisation fell 36 per cent to 2.05 trillion lira (\$1.08 billion) and new rights issues exceeded the value of dividend payments.

But another 142 companies joined the junior and unlisted sections of the market, raising the total number of companies listed at the exchange to 556, the figures showed.

The total value of shares, corporate paper and government bonds traded at the exchange more than doubled to 11.5 trillion lira (\$6 billion).

Price/earnings ratios of the top 50 companies have also remained low, averaging an estimated 3.49 in 1988 after 4.97 in 1987, a very attractive figure in other markets.

"I sold when they freed interest rates but I bought again two weeks ago," said one operator. "I know it's speculative, but we would be long term after what we've seen in the past two years."

Arab funds and Sudan to discuss development projects

KHARTOUM, Feb 10, (KUNA): Arab funds and development corporations will hold a joint meeting with representatives of the Sudan government in Khartoum on Sunday to evaluate steps taken to support the Sudanese economy, Minister of State for Finance and Economic Planning Dr Altigani Altayeb said today.

The meeting will discuss a number of important topics related to the projects launched by the Sudan government in co-operation with the Arab funds and development corporations to rescue the situation in the aftermath of the damage caused by the heavy rainfall and rising Nile floods last August.

Among the most important topics the group will look into is the steps taken by the Khartoum government to implement the development projects while at the same time arranging for paying the arrears and financial commitments to these funds and corporations, he added.

Dr Al Tayeb said Sudan will present a number of short-term and long-term development projects to the meeting in addition to future plans envisaged by Sudan.

The Sudanese minister was optimistic of the success of the joint meeting which he said will follow the spirit of the Paris meeting in helping the rehabilitation programme of Sudan.

Finance and Planning Minister Dr Omer Nur Eddaim will lead the delegation to Kuwait which will include Agriculture Minister Aldo Ajo Deng and the Social Welfare, Relief and Zakat Minister Ahmed Abdul Rahman in addition to the governor of the Central Bank and eleven experts and senior officials of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.

Developing countries fear EEC getting upper hand in aid talks

BRUSSELS, Feb 10, (Reuters): When the European Economic Community signed the first Lome Convention with developing countries in 1975, the trade and aid package was hailed as a radical new blueprint to help narrow the North-South gap.

The two sides formed a partnership to discuss how to spend the aid money, secure mutual trade benefits and achieve a degree of co-operation on political issues.

But international economic events have overtaken those ideals and radically altered the balance between the two sides.

Negotiations

Plenty of hard talking is therefore expected next week when ministers from the 12 EEC states and the 66-member African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group meet in the Congolese capital Brazzaville to review negotiations for a fourth convention.

"The ACP no longer have the upper hand and will find it very difficult to get much of what they want from the next treaty," said Chris Stevens of the London-based Overseas Development Institute.

The World Bank also announced a loan of \$61 million to China for help in building a bridge and highway between Nanchang, capital of Jiangxi province in southeastern China, and the port of Jiujiang. This loan is for 35

The current convention — worth 8.5 billion European currency units (\$9.5 billion) between 1985 and 1990 to the ACP — consists of development aid, compensation for fluctuations in commodity prices and tariff-free entry of ACP commodities into the EEC.

The recipients, heavily debt-ridden and suffering from record low prices from their commodities, now want more aid to help them raise exports and break out of their poverty traps.

Resources

"If we don't get the resources we think are needed, the negative growth rates and balance of payment deficits will keep on increasing and the terms of trade will worsen," said Kaliopate Tavola, Fiji's ambassador to the community.

But several factors make the ACP worry that the community's interest in their well-being is not what it once was:

— the global slump in commodity prices has reduced EEC worries about supplies of vital raw materials, one of the main motives for the original agreement;

— a general lowering of world trade tariffs has blunted the effects of the trade concessions under Lome;

— the EEC's plans to create a giant single market by the end of 1992 could, ACP nations fear, close markets to their goods;

— some European Economic Community donors want to tie existing aid more closely to what they call sensible economic policies;

— the appointment of Spaniard, Manuel Marin, as the new EEC commissioner for development policy has aroused ACP worries that the focus of EEC aid will be switched towards Latin America.

This multitude of problems contrast starkly with the atmosphere in 1975 at the signing in Lome, the capital of Togo, of the first five-year convention between EEC countries and many of their former colonies.

In the mid-1970s commodity prices were booming and the community was worried about Third World producers, grouping together to boost the prices of their exports of commodities as copper, cocoa, and tea.

OPEC Fund loans for India, Botswana and Benin

VIENNA, Feb 10, (OPECNA): The OPEC Fund for International Development is to extend \$14.55 million in three loans to finance projects in India, Botswana and Benin.

India will receive \$10 million to finance a hospital project aimed at expanding medical training and extending health facilities to about 6.50 million people living in the Rewa, Satna, Sidhi, Shahdol, Panna and Chhatrapur districts of the state of Madhya Pradesh.

Project

The project consists of the construction of an 800-bed teaching hospital which will train 360 medical students, nurses and paramedics every year.

This is the 10th loan extended by the Fund to India, bringing total lending to the country to \$183.30 million. One of the previous loans was for balance of payment support, one was a line of credit to finance tubewell irrigation schemes and seven went to projects in energy, indus-

try and transportation.

Botswana will receive \$1.50 million for an all-weather road linking East Botswana with the Okavango delta benefiting about 107,000 people.

This is the seventh loan given by the Fund to Botswana. Two previous loans went for balance of payments support, while four helped finance road, airport, water supply and education projects.

Import

Benin will receive \$3.05 million to import intermediate and capital goods to be used in agricultural and industrial sectors.

This is the 11th loan extended by the Fund to Benin. Two previous loans were for balance of payments support, seven went to finance projects in education, agriculture, transportation, water supply and energy and two were in the form of lines of credit to the Benin Development Bank (BDB).

\$140m World Bank loan for Hungary

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (AP): The World Bank will lend Hungary \$140 million, with at least 15 million to go towards helping small privately-owned enterprises, it was announced yesterday.

Among the communist-ruled countries of Eastern Europe, Hungary has advanced furthest in encouraging private business. Some of its arrangements have served as a model for changes in the Soviet Union.

The World Bank also announced a loan of \$61 million to China for help in building a bridge and highway between Nanchang, capital of Jiangxi province in southeastern China, and the port of Jiujiang. This loan is for 35

years, at .75 of one per cent interest.

The World Bank is owned by 151 countries, not including the Soviets, with the US government holding the largest number of shares. Some members of Congress have criticised the bank for its loans to member countries under communist rule.

A statement by the bank said the loan is part of a broader programme restructuring Hungarian industry to orient it more toward the market. Money will be lent to support producers of goods that can be exported to countries paying in US dollars and other hard currencies.

"The project will improve Hungary's trade balance and

generate more than 100 million a year in convertible-currency revenues," said Oscar de Bruyn Kops, an industrial specialist at the bank.

He said two previous loans to Hungary paved the way for orienting Hungarian firms more toward making profits, and for the development of small and private firms.

This one will be channelled through the government's National Bank of Hungary, which will lend it on by way of the country's government-owned commercial banking system. Some commercial banks in Hungary are now joint ventures with private banks from neighbouring Austria and other countries.

Australia launches inquiry on insider trading

CANBERRA, Feb 10, (AP): The government has begun investigating insider trading after a report said the country hasn't successfully prosecuted anyone for stock market manipulation in the past 20 years.

Alan Griffiths, chairman of the House of Representatives standing committee on legal and constitutional affairs, was appointed yesterday to direct the investigation.

He said the inquiry was prompted by the apparent failure of current laws, which allow for maximum individual fines of \$20,000 (\$18,000), to deter insider stock trading.

"It is ... naive to assume that the lack of successful insider trading prosecutions signifies the absence of criminal activity in this area," Griffiths said in a statement.

A recent report on insider trading said that in the past two decades there have been only six prosecutions for the crime in Australia. None was successful, said Roman Tomasic, one of two authors of the study, commissioned by the Criminology Research Council. The report was released on Wednesday.

Problem

Tomasic said insider trading was a far more serious problem in Australia than had previously been thought. Although not on the same scale as in the United States or Japan, the problem could cause serious long-term damage to the securities market in Australia, he said.

Griffiths said three insider-trading cases are scheduled for trial later this year but he gave no

specifics.

In evidence before the committee on another matter, Henry Bosch, chairman of the National Companies and Securities Commission, testified that it is too hard to prove cases under existing law, Griffiths' statement said.

Tomasic and the report's co-author, Brendan Pentony, of the Canberra College of advanced education, described Australian's current law enforcement effort as "poor." They said regulators had insufficient resources for proper market surveillance and investigation.

The authors called the law's current penalty "a joke."

They said they found a "tolerant" attitude toward insider trading in some sections of the financial markets, and recommended increasing penalties.

Sen. Janine Haines, leader of the opposition Australian Democrats, has urged the maximum individual fine be raised to 150,000 Australian dollars (\$133,000).

"The present fine for many players in the stock market is merely a slap on the wrist," she said in a statement last week.

Griffiths said his investigation will be "an important means of assuring public and investor confidence in the Australian share market."

The standing committee can call individuals to appear before it and summon documents and records, although the extent of its power to compel witnesses to give evidence has not been tested in the courts.

World Business Summary

Unilever conglomerate to buy Faberge, Arden

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Anglo-Dutch Unilever group said today it is to spend \$1.55 billion buying the cosmetics and toiletries businesses of US-based Faberge and Elizabeth Arden. Unilever PLC-NV is the world's second largest consumer goods company with interests from foods to detergents. The deal will be one of the biggest in a series of US takeovers by European firms. Unilever said the acquisition of the Faberge and Elizabeth Arden toiletries, cosmetics and fragrances businesses would be made through US subsidiary Unilever United States Inc. The deal, subject to a definitive agreement and government approval, is expected to be completed in 90 days and would boost Unilever's foothold in the US hair care market following its \$3.1-billion takeover of Cheesecake-Ponds in 1987. "The acquisition will increase the size of Unilever's personal products business by more than 25 per cent," Unilever chairman Michael Angus said.

Faberge and Elizabeth Arden are part of the Riklis family corporation. Faberge manufactures personal care products and toiletries, while Elizabeth Arden produces the more up-market skin-care, make-up and fragrance products. Combined sales of the Faberge and Elizabeth Arden businesses for the year ended January 1989 exceeded \$800 million with operating profits of more than \$100 million. Unilever shares were down six pence (11 cents) to £5.37 (\$9.5) in a weak London stock market early today.

US businessmen and Laos sign joint venture accord

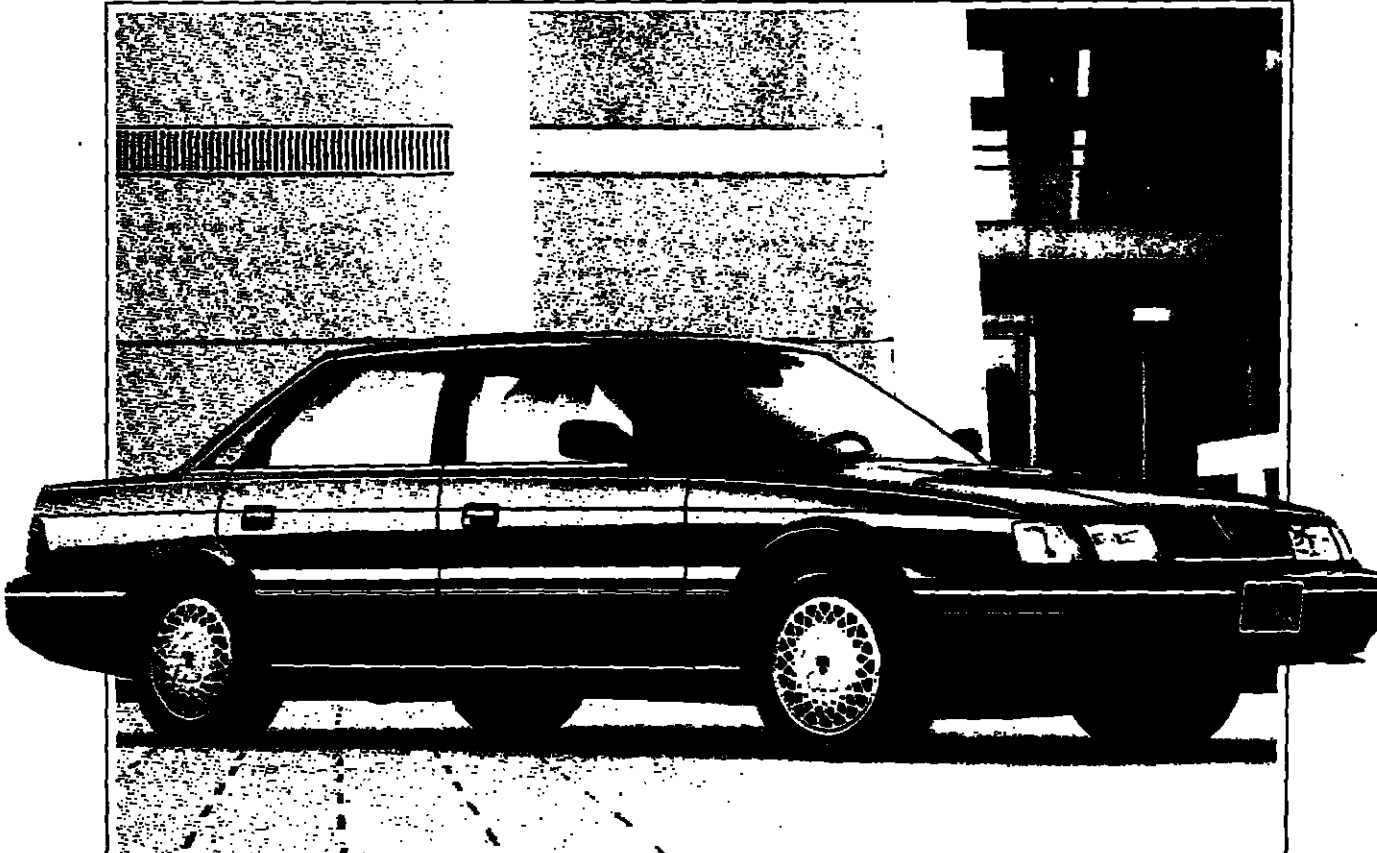
BANGKOK, Feb 10, (UPI): US-based businessmen and the communist government of Laos have signed an agreement finalising the first joint venture between the two countries in a decade, the official Laotian news agency said today. The joint venture, involving hotels and tourism, was signed on Feb 8 in the Laotian capital of Vientiane by representatives of the Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations and two businessmen from the United States, according to a report from the official KPL news agency. American businessman Donald Scott and Boom-On Lattavong, a Laotian living in the United States, agreed to co-operate with the Lao government in restoring hotels and promoting tourism in Vientiane. In the province of Savannakhet on the Thai-Laotian border 165 miles (265 km) southeast of the capital, and in Champassak on the Mekong river 288 miles (465 km) southeast of the capital, the official news report said.

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LONDON
(Beta Strike)

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1039-1044.

GEN DYNMCS	50/4	50/6	MOTOROLA	44/4	45/1	SEAGULL EN	17/7	18/
GEN ELECT	46/5	47/1	MRSN-MCLEN	57/4	57/6	SEALED AIR	49/2	49/
GEN HOST	9/1	9/1	MURPHY OIL	33/1	33/3	SEARS ROE	42/1	42/

MINING CO	31/6	31/6	NEW YORK, Feb 10, (Reuters): Wall Street stocks were still lower but improving from their steep early losses. The fall in stocks accompanied a drop in the US long bond of more than 1-1/2 points. Stocks also levelled off with bonds. Futures traders said programme selling added to early downward pressure. The Dow was off eight points at 2315 and decliners led gainers by over two-to-one. The Dow fell to 2301 earlier. Piper Jaffray and Hopwood analyst Ed Nicoski said, "A bigger than expected rise in producer prices instigated early weakness." Others added stocks fell amid disappointment with the Bush plan to reduce the budget deficit.
CO CORP	37/0	37/1	
ROTOR MOTOR	54/3	55/0	
STER WHL	16/2	16/4	
CHLD IND	12/5	12/7	
EE MC OG	4/5	4/4	
BANK	21/0	21/0	
CHICAG	34/3	34/5	
INTERS	48/5	48/3	
MISSIP	18/2	18/1	
F CORP	50/2	50/4	INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCIAL SERVICES
MINNET CO	37/1	37/3	
VESTON	2/0	2/0	
TXK CORP	57/6	58/0	
A CP	0	5/2	
N DATA	5/1	5/0	

Wall Street Market Report

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (Reuters): Wall Street stocks were still lower but improving from their steep early losses. The fall in stocks accompanied a drop in the US long bond of more than 1-1/2 points. Stocks also levelled off with bonds. Futures traders said programme selling added to early downward pressure.

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INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCIAL SERVICES

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1989

Currency rates

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.28763	0.28879
Sterling	0.502494	0.505664
DM.	0.153814	0.154845
S. fr.	0.180871	0.182084
F. fr.	0.045189	0.045478
L. ira	0.000210	0.000213
Japan yen	0.00222	0.002238
Bh. dinar	0.762648	0.766315
UAE Dh.	0.087278	0.088656
Saud riyal	0.076651	0.077191
Qat. riyal	0.078965	0.079391
O. riyal	0.746613	0.751068

BOMBAY

UNITED POLYTRY	0.228	----	----	----	----	----	----
KMT FOODS	0.295	----	----	----	----	----	----
-AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	----	----	----	----	----	----
NON-KMT SECTOR							
-BHN.INTER.BK	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	80000	----	1
-BHN.M.EAST.BK	0.052	----	----	----	----	----	----
-UNIT.GULF BK	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-COAST INVEST.	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	240000	----	3
-A.G.IWV.CORP	0.034	0.034	0.034	0.034	180000	----	2
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.550	----	----	----	----	----	----
-GULF MEDICAL.	0.034	0.033	0.033	0.033	240000	----	1
KJAMAT STOCK EXCHANGE							
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET							
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE	
-GULF INTL INS	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-ARAB INT CO.	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-GULF UNION INS	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-R.K.WHITE CHMT	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-AJMAN CEMENT.	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR							
-B-PUJAIAR CEMT	0.000	----	----	----	----	----	----
-C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	----	----	----	----	----	----
-D-GULF CEMENT	0.010	----	----	----	----	----	----

DELL'EDINE'S MAKATI

ZÜRICH				ZÜRICH	
STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE			
BAER HDGS	11200	11000		NESTLE I	7340 7360
BALOISE PS	2260	2260		NESTLE N	6800 6805
BBC I A	2930	2930		NESTLE PS	1365 1370
BK LEU I	3075	3090		OE BUEHR I	1250 1250
BK LEU N	2530	2550		OE BUEHR N	389 390
BK LEU PS	419	419		OE BUEHR P	365 368
CFV	0	1150		ROCHE BABY	14175 14200
CTB GEIG I	3110	3130		ROCHE I	38000 38000
CTB GEIG N	2465	2365		RUECKVER I	9900 10000
CTB GEIG P	2475	2430		RUECKVER N	7250 7140
CGW	0	1300		RUECKVER P	1650 1620
CREB SUI I	2680	2700		RY TR BK	920 930
CREB SUI N	530	532		S BNKGLS I	3160 3160
EG LAUFEN	0	1750		S BNKGLS N	625 627
ELEKTROMAT	2950	2950		S BNKGLS P	117.50 117.00
ENS CHEN I	4400	4350		S BNKVRN I	334 337
GLOBUS I	6900	6900		S BNKVRN N	296.00 298.00
GLOBUS N	7100	7100		S BNKVRN P	296 296
GLOBUS PS	1080	1090		SANDOZ I	10275 10275
JACOBS S J	7110	7140		SANDOZ N	8650 8525
JACOBS S N	1390	1400		SANDOZ PS	1860 1815
JACOBS S P	630	635		SULZER N	5650 5525
JELM I	2475	2500		SULZER PS	453 444
JELM PS	367	375		SVB	1760 1760
LANDIS N	1370	1380		SWISSAIR	1030 1030
LANDIS PS	124.00	125.00		SWISSAIR N	960 960
NERCK I	800	798		W THUR I	4145 4140
				W THUR N	3200 3150
				W THUR PS	688 686
				ZURICH I	4440 4440
				ZURICH N	3400 3300
				ZURICH P	3740 3750

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	LAST	CHANGE	HIGH	LOW
IND	2,315.18	- 7.86	2,323.39	2,302.50
TRANS	1,063.71	- 5.18	1,069.37	1,062.26
UTILS	187.41	- 0.59	188.12	187.23
STOCKS	880.86	- 3.61	884.47	878.14
NYSE COMP	165.61	-.52		
S-P COMPOSITE	295.27	- 0.79		
NYSE INDS	200.49	- 0.71		
AMEX INDEX	324.40	- 0.96		
NASDAQ	404.41	- 1.98		
NASDAQ BANKING	460.24	- 0.91		
NASDAQ FIN'L	481.39	- 1.41		
NASDAQ INDS	400.37	- 2.26		
S-P 100 INDEX	281.53	- 0.94		

Manila Stock Market Report

Indonesia team for Europe

JAKARTA, Feb 10, (OPEC-NA): Indonesia is to send a delegation to Europe led by the Director-General of Foreign Trade, Palan Nainggolan, to negotiate for an increase in the country's dried cassava export quota to EEC countries.

"We fear that our present quota of 825,000 tons a year will not be enough to accommodate the increasing volume of dried cassava which we can export because of an increase in our production," Minister of Trade Anifin Siregar told reporters yesterday.

Indonesia will also urge EEC to require certificates of origin for the dried cassava imported in order to determine from which country the commodity originates. The intention is to prevent Indonesia's dried cassava from being "mixed up" with that from other countries.

"Thus Indonesia's quota will be fully met with dried cassava that truly comes from Indonesia," Siregar said.

He admitted that in the past Indonesia had not been able to fulfil its EEC dried cassava export quota, leading the community to meet the shortage by buying dried cassava from other countries. However, last year Indonesia fulfilled almost all of its quota.

This year, Indonesia's cassava production is expected to increase rapidly because of the prevailing high price for dried cassava.

From its annual dried cassava export of 825,000 tons, Indonesia earns around \$90 million.

Thailand is the world's biggest exporter of dried cassava with six million tons a year.

Magazine Stock Market Report

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GENEVA, Feb 10, (AP): The United States and the European Economic Community have deadlocked on Wednesday in a new instalment of the dispute over an EEC ban on hormone-treated meat and US retaliatory measures.

Many non-EEC countries at a council meeting of the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade also expressed concern over the possibility of unilateral trade curbs, some criticising the United States by name.

The council's regular session appeared to satisfy EEC hopes for wide condemnation of the US countermeasures as a violation of GATT's international trade rules, although the European trade bloc did not demand a formal trade inquiry into reasons for US protectionist measures.

Justify

Top EEC and US trade officials are expected to discuss the row when they meet on Feb 18 in Brussels.

GATT Director-General Arthur Dunkel of Switzerland told delegates the trade accord contains nothing "which could justify discriminatory import tariffs" as a retaliatory move.

EEC delegate Tran Van Thinh charged the US move came in without GATT authority. He reiterated threats of EEC counter-retaliation against US imports unless Washington

US imports unless Washington withdraws its measures.

US envoy Michael Samuels said the meat hormones case is only a "small crisis" and that settlement efforts are continu-

He stated the US position that scientific evidence does not suggest hormone-treated meat poses any health risks for European consumers — the reason cited by

Brazilian Ambassador Rubens Ricupero urged Washington to withdraw its measures, warning a proliferation of such

Moves
Japan expressed concern about unilateral trade moves, as did Thailand and Switzerland.

The EEC's import ban on hormone-treated meat went into effect last Jan 1, affecting US sales on beef and veal valued at more than \$100 million.

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President's slogan 'read my lips, no new taxes' dominates the new strategy

Financial markets greet US budget with dismay

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (Reuters): World financial markets today greeted President George Bush's \$1.16-trillion budget proposal with dismay or neutrality. Traders say the budget offers no reassurance that the country's staggering deficit will be resolved.

Bush's budget, which for the fiscal year beginning in October, says the deficit can be reduced to \$91.1 billion, but that projection is based on principles espoused by former President Reagan's administration, under which the deficit grew hugely.

"The disappointment is riding fairly high today," said a foreign exchange dealer with a US bank in Frankfurt, commenting on condition he was not identified. "People had been hoping Bush will get the budget out of the mess it's in."

Incentive

A dealer with the Bank of Tokyo said there was no fresh incentive from Bush's budget address.

"The President will have to carry (his pledges) through a difficult period... with the US economy predicted to slow down in 1990 and a growing concern over inflation likely during the first half of this year stemming from high (US) interest rates," said Nobuyuki Ueda, a senior econ-

omist at the Japan long-term credit bank.

Asian financial markets appeared to give President Bush's budget plans the benefit of the doubt today.

Despite an apparent 'wait and see' attitude in the markets, analysts and economists throughout the region were sceptical Bush could deliver his budget promises.

"People were anxious to see if something new came out and it didn't," said Gerhard Hinterhauser, assistant vice-president at the DB Capital Markets (Asia) brokerage in Tokyo.

Measures

"The question remains whether Bush will be able to cut the deficit with these measures," he added.

"It was a pretty unglamorous sort of budget and an anti-climax," said Paul Droop, assistant economist of the county Natwest Australia Investment Bank in Sydney.

The response of Asian markets was equally flat, with most showing little or no reaction to the budget proposals. Many closed little changed.

The President pledged to slash the budget deficit for the year starting in October by \$72 billion, largely through a one-year freeze on defence spending.

But the analysts believe that Bush's forecast for economic growth is too high and his expectations for US interest rates too low.

Slower-than-expected growth would mean lower government revenues, while higher rates would need bigger outlays to service government debt. In either case, that would mean a bigger deficit than Bush's \$91.1 billion target.

"I'm certainly sceptical," said David Pike, an economist with broker UBS Phillips and Drew International here. "Bush is going to face a difficult summer. The whole thing is going to be a very messy affair."

Proposals

Despite the widespread scepticism, the reaction of Asian markets to the Bush proposals was relatively mild.

Dealers said the main details of the plans had already been released before the President spoke and the markets had reacted then, with the dollar and US bonds losing ground.

"The proposals came as no surprise because details of the President's speech were released (to the press) earlier," said Kouichi Kubo, manager of the Treasury Department at Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank in Singapore.

But Bush's conciliatory approach to the US Congress might also have encouraged some in the market.

The President has quickly given congressional Democrats, who are in the majority in both houses, some of what they were looking for — no increase in defence outlays and more spending on social programmes.

Get through

"He's much more give and take," Pike said, comparing Bush with former President Reagan.

In Europe, traders registered disappointment at Thursday's long-awaited announcement of Bush's plans to cut the stubborn US budget deficit in 1990 and pushed the dollar and share prices lower.

Economists said they were now resigned to slow and tortuous negotiations between the Bush team and the Democrat-controlled Congress, spelling little relief from high US interest rates and their knock-on effect throughout Western Europe.

"The honeymoon is over," said Jim O'Neill, economist at Swiss Bank Corp in London. "The reality is that there is now a good three months of haggling with Congress to get through."

The President, whose election-

ering slogan 'read my lips, no new taxes' has dominated the new strategy, seems to have failed to convince European markets he can cut the deficit sharply.

"His speech is more important as part of the ritual of American politics, more about mood than substance," said Jonathan Wilmot, economist at Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd.

"He has tried to protect his image of a 'kinder and gentler America' but has been enormously vague about spending and which areas he wants to cut... it is up for negotiation with Congress."

European stock markets, enjoying a powerful New Year rally which had driven London prices up 16 per cent to the highest since the October 1987 crash, retreated.

Short-lived

But the dollar's decline was generally forecast to be short-lived and some economists expect it to rebound strongly if budget negotiations with Congress run into trouble.

That will offer little solace for policy-makers in Europe and elsewhere who already voice concern at the rise in the inflation generated by a strong dollar and more expensive import prices.

We would like to charge interest on government loans: Soviet bankers

MOSCOW, Feb 10, (Reuters): Soviet state bankers said today they would like to charge interest on the billions of roubles they must, by law, loan the government each year.

Vyacheslav Zakharov, vice-chairman of the board of the State Bank of the USSR, told a news conference the bank is required under the state's annual budget law to provide a certain amount of money to the government interest-free.

But he said the bank would like to adopt a Western-style system under which the government would have to pay interest on such borrowings.

Interest

"We have a law this year under which the state bank must give 63.4 billion roubles (\$102 billion) to the state — and not a kopek more," Zakharov said.

"Other banks such as Italian banks charge interest — and we would like to do the same," he said.

He suggested that such a system could eventually be adopted as part of reforms in the Soviet banking system.

"There are two scenarios for the future. Either this will continue to be decided year-by-year in the budget law, or there will be an interest charge."

He said the money the central bank loans to the government is

taken from the savings of Soviet citizens, which currently amount to 300 billion roubles (\$483 billion).

The 63.4 billion roubles in government borrowing is over and above a 36-billion-rouble (\$58 billion dollar) amount officially referred to as the budget deficit for 1989.

Deficit

Zakharov said his bank did not finance the 36-billion-rouble deficit but did not explain how the Soviet government covers it. "That is the Ministry of Finance's problem," he said.

Last month, top Kremlin economic adviser Leonid Alibekov said the official deficit

plus the government borrowing were the real budget deficit — a whopping 100 billion roubles (\$161 billion), or 20 per cent of all government spending.

Today's news conference was called to discuss recent Western-style reforms in the Soviet banking system.

In the past year new commercial banks have emerged, while the bank for foreign economic affairs has begun experimenting with various financial instruments such as foreign bond issues.

Soviet banks will probably start holding foreign exchange auctions this year, said Thomas Alibekov, vice-chairman of the

KD deposit rates firm in active trade

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firm on Thursday in active trading as liquidity tightened after Wednesday's 100 million dinar three-month treasury bill issue.

Dealers said overnight funds opened at around Wednesday levels of 7-7/8, 6-7/8 per cent and briefly slipped to 7-1/2, 6-1/2 per cent after 6-7/8 per cent business.

But by early afternoon they were quoted at eight, seven per cent with business at eight per cent.

Tomorrow and spot-next deposits firmed 1/2 point during

the day to 8-1/2, eight per cent while the one-week hit 9-1/4, 8-1/4 per cent, nearly a full point above Wednesday.

The fixed periods opened near Wednesday levels but firmed to 8-1/2, eight per cent for the one through 12-month maturities. One-month business was at eight per cent.

The dinar firmed against the dollar with the Central Bank rate at 0.28816/26 from Wednesday's 0.28837/47. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.28803/13.

Gold eases

Dollar drops after budget plans, then rebounds

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuters): The dollar sank today in a currency market disappointed by President Bush's budget plans but then rebounded on prospects that US interest rates will stay high or even rise.

Dealers said some investors felt that Bush offered no radical new ideas in the budget speech yesterday.

He said he would cut the budget deficit in the year starting in October to \$91.1 billion, from at least \$160 billion this year, largely with a freeze on defence spending.

But investors were not sure he

could achieve his proposed spending cuts and so cut the deficit without abandoning his election pledge of no new taxes.

Loss

"The budget sounds good but the market does not think he will achieve it. There has been some loss of confidence," said Werner Bauer, chief foreign exchange dealer at Bethmann Bank in Frankfurt.

The dollar in early trading dropped below 1.84 West German marks and 127.25 yen. But it later rebounded to around 1.86 and 128.25 after the United States announced that producer

prices rose one per cent in January, the biggest jump in three years.

The data suggested that, to fight inflation, US interest rates must stay high or even rise. That means dollar assets will continue to offer a generous return and speculative money flowed back to the dollar.

Rally

Prospects of high US interest rates helped the dollar up near 1.89 marks at the start of this week. Central banks then sold it in the open market to brake a rally which threatened to give an

inflationary twist to most nations' import bills.

The US bond market dropped on disappointment with Bush's speech and the producer price figures and Wall Street stocks, after a 20-point fall yesterday to 2,323.04, also renewed a decline in early New York trading.

Down

But traders snapped up blue chips at the lower prices and the Dow Jones industrial average, after touching 2,301.43, began to recover.

London stocks sank with Wall Street and in mid-afternoon the

FTSE index of 100 British blue chips was down almost 30 points.

Earlier, Tokyo's Nikkei average rose to yet another record close at 32,131.99. But the gain was only of 53.56 points or 0.17 per cent on the day.

The new benchmark US Treasury 30-year bond traded in London lower at 97-26/32 per cent of its face value yielding 9.09 per cent.

Gold eased in London to trade just under \$390 an ounce. Spot oil prices were steady with market Brent blend quoted around \$16 a barrel for March loading.

Moscow will study bond issue in Kuwait, says official

KUWAIT, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Soviet Union will study the possibility of raising funds in Kuwait through a Kuwaiti dinar bond issue, a senior Soviet finance official said yesterday.

Victor Geraschenko, first deputy chairman of the Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of the USSR, told Reuters he had also discussed Soviet gold sales with officials and bankers during a one-week visit.

"We agreed to study a possible bond issue and be in touch with KFTCIC (Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company)," he said.

The state-owned KFTCIC is a leading institution in the Kuwaiti dinar bond market which also lead managed a landmark \$150-million loan by Kuwaiti banks to Moscow in 1987.

Ties

The Soviet Union has sought to boost economic ties with Gulf states, having expanded its diplomatic presence in the region since 1985.

The Kuwaiti bond market was closed to foreign borrowers for five years until 1987 when Finland and the World Bank raised funds. But there have been no issues since.

Geraschenko said he hoped the Soviet Union could begin direct sales of one-kg gold bars to Kuwaiti investors, some of whom currently bought them through European brokers.

Dubai hosts education and training fair

THE Gulf Education and Training Exhibition opens at Dubai International Trade Centre (Hall 1) from Feb 12 to 16. Supported by the Ministry of Education of the UAE, over 60 universities, polytechnics and colleges from the UK are taking part as well as a number of Gulf based-educational institutions.

They are mounting a comprehensive presentation of study options, ranging from six week language and technical training courses to diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate studies. There will be experts on hand to offer advice on study options ranging from accountancy to zoology, and including engineering, medicine, science, business studies and much more.

Many of the universities and polytechnics taking part will also be particularly interested in developing contacts and programmes of study in co-operation with their counterparts in the GCC states.

New investment fund aims to improve dealing in shares

By Khaled Ahmed

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the Kuwait Stock Exchange, Hesham Al Utubi has announced that the proposed Financial and Real Estate Investment Funds will be introduced to the market shortly. He said this was a very important and a necessary step towards diversifying investment channels. This is especially true for investors willing to have their investments managed by professionals.

Al Utubi added that technical studies on the funds were completed one and a half month ago. He said that the concerned authorities at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in co-operation with the Fatwa and Legislation Department are currently studying the legal aspects of ways to introduce and control the funds.

Funds

Al Utubi stressed that the introduction of the new investment funds aims at adding new investment channels and comes within the efforts being exerted to improve dealing in shares and in a bid to provide more confidence in the market.

He said that among the main

benefits of the funds is to enable the small investors to invest their money with 'specialist management and under continuous supervision for the protection of these investments.

He said that investing in the funds will enable investors to distribute their investment portfolios to both local and international markets as it is expected to allow these funds to enter foreign financial and real estate markets, thus reducing risks.

Dealers

Al Utubi announced that investing in the funds will be open both to Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis. He said that all dealers will thus be allowed to employ their investments in the financial and real estate markets, thus opening new wider channel for investors. He hinted that the funds will form a nucleus for body to enter the local bourse thus opening the way for the market to become a market of establishments more than individuals. The funds will also help create market-makers.

He added that the new funds are favourable factors promoting post-dated deals in the market, and ensuring the continuity of the post-dated system, which is currently under study.

Over 250 medical firms to take part in health-care exhibition

OVER 250 medical and health companies from 24 countries have gathered in Dubai for Arab Health and Dentistry '89, the Middle East's biggest health-care exhibition, which opens today.

Preparations for the show, being staged at Dubai International Trade Centre, are almost complete, as exhibitors make the final touches to their stands which display the latest in medical and dental technology.

Exhibition

Held under the auspices of Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the UAE's Minister of Finance and Industry who is due to inaugurate the exhibition, and organised by Fairs and Exhibitions Ltd. of London, the four-day show is expected to attract visitors from throughout the Middle East.

Among the exhibitors are official groups from West Germany, with over 60 companies, and the UK, which has nearly 50 companies on show. There are also groups from Austria, Italy, Holland and Denmark, as well as companies from Canada, the USA, Japan, France, Switzerland, Belgium and Finland.

The Arab Health '89 con-

ference which will be held during the exhibition, in co-operation with the Department of Health and Medical Services of the Government of Dubai, will focus on head surgery. Experts from the UK, West Germany and Holland are joining some of the UAE's top medical specialists for an in-depth forum on topics including neurosurgery, ophthalmology, and radiology.

Arab Health is celebrating its 12th year in Dubai, and has been joined by Arab Dentistry for the second time.

Monty Momtchiloff, senior executive of the Association of British Health-Care Industries — formerly the British Health-Care Export Council — who is leading the UK exhibitors, said: "The British regard this exhibition as the greatest gathering in the Middle East for anyone concerned with health care."

Stature

"The fact that it has achieved this stature says a lot about the facilities of Dubai which encourage visitors to attend."

A spokesman for the German group said: "The main reason for German companies to come here is that they will meet many business people from all over the Middle East region."

BA sales team in Egypt wins award



Nigel Page (left) pictured with Egyptian sales team.

THE British Airways sales team in Egypt has been named the Middle East Sales Area of the Year for 1988.

"This award recognises the

tremendous results achieved by the Egyptian sales team given their difficult marketplace circumstances," said Nigel Page, British Airways regional sales manager, at the award presenta-

tion ceremony in Dubai. "Of all the countries in the Middle East, the Egyptian sales team achieved the best results against their targets for the past year," he added.

Bid to expand economic co-operation

Australia, India sign accord

NEW DELHI, Feb 10, (UPI): Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke today called on Asian nations to unite against 'economic discrimination' by Europe and the United States, warning that a failure to correct global financial imbalances will breed political instability.

Addressing a news conference on the second day of a four-day visit, Hawke said continued disparities in the international economic system could undo progress being made at the political level by the superpowers towards reducing tensions around the world.

"History has shown economic discrimination is the precursor of political instability," the 60-

year-old Australian leader said.

"We should... make the economic superpowers, especially the European nations and America, see reality," said Hawke. "Time is critically short. We have got to bring them to their senses."

The need for Asian and Pacific nations to increase economic co-operation to combat protectionist tendencies in Western Europe and the United States has been the main theme of Hawke's trip to India, Pakistan, Thailand and South Korea.

Speaking of his stop in India, Hawke said the 'major benefits' would be closer high-level ties that will give a needed boost to bilateral economic co-operation, which only began in earnest in 1986.

Hawke, whose mission to open greater opportunities for Australian business in India's vast markets followed by a week ago, a similar effort by French President Francois Mitterrand, came to New Delhi armed with new agreements and proposals to expand economic ties.

Contract

The two nations today signed accords to boost co-operation in telecommunications, rail transportation and meteorology and Australia granted India \$35 million in new aid.

Hawke was also assisting in final contract negotiations on Australian participation in developing a massive coal mine

in eastern Bihar state and the construction of a naval base in the western state of Goa.

Australia's coal industry "is second to none" in expertise, he told the news conference, after which he opened an annual meeting of the India-Australia Business Council, which is to explore ways of narrowing New Delhi's \$223 million deficit in bilateral trade that reached about \$700 million last year.

Hawke met Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in the afternoon for their second set of talks, which a Foreign Ministry spokesman said covered international and regional issues, including the nearly completed Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and the search for a peace settlement in Vietnamese-occupied Cambodia.

The Australian leader then delivered the 3rd annual Indira Gandhi memorial lecture sponsored by the Association of Indian Diplomats, repeating themes he had discussed before.

At his news conference, Hawke said Indian and Pakistani leaders told him they hope for better relations between their nations, which have fought three wars since they received independence from Britain in 1947.

Tomorrow, Hawke will travel with his wife, Hazel, to Agra to visit the Taj Mahal. He will leave Sunday after playing a round of golf.

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Melanie Griffith: Hollywood's new sex symbol

Getting high on work

By Ivor Davis

IF MELANIE GRIFFITH'S life story is ever turned into a Hollywood film, there is one actress who would be perfect to play the lead — Griffith herself. The 31-year-old actress' life reminds one of a clichéd 1-hit-rock-bottom-then-made-it-to-the-top Tinseltown saga. She has been dubbed "Baby Monroe," the new Kim Novak, and this generation's Judy Holliday. Magazines feature her in colour spreads and producers vie for her services. She is currently winning rave reviews for her role in Mike Nichols' recently released *Working Girl* in which she plays a street-smart secretary who wants to prove she has the brains to make it in corporate America. In fact, Griffith is shaping up as a 1988 Academy Award contender for best actress.

Impressed Nichols, who is not easily impressed and has worked with the best in the business, is positively lyrical when Griffith's name comes up. He describes her as "that rare creature made for the camera. Her face, her eyes are transparent; you can see right into her feelings. ... She is like a small, carefully shielded atomic reactor with a kind of intense power glow in the middle of her. She doesn't act. ... She just arrives alive."

The actress recently showed up in a New York hotel to talk about her role as Tess McGill in *Working Girl*. "It takes courage for a woman to show her vulnerability on film," she says, "but I didn't want to overdo it in this one. I played Tess as an honest, straightforward person and took chapters of my own life to understand her."

And there are lots of experiences to draw from. In 1974 she married actor Don Johnson; they divorced a year later. In 1983 she wed actor Steve Bauer by whom she has a 4-year-old son Alexander (Griffith and Bauer separated shortly after the birth of their child).

Victim By her mid-20s Griffith had fallen victim to alcohol and drug abuse. "I don't regret any of it," she says. "Whatever I've done



Melanie Griffith: winning rave reviews for her portrayal of a street-smart secretary in Mike Nichols' *Working Girl*

added up to what I am now."

Griffith is the product of a tumultuous childhood, growing up with a stepfather (Noel Marshall) and his four children and an outlandish assortment of passers-by including Alfred Hitchcock who, during the filming of *The Birds* (1963), presented the child with a miniature coffin in which lay a perfect replica of her mother, actress Tippi Hedren.

She shared her home with her mother's menagerie of wild animals, including a lion that in 1977 mauled her face so badly that without plastic surgery she would not be a box-office star today. She left home early, moving from man to man, one of

whom was Warren Beatty, who is Alexander's godfather.

In 1980 she was hit by a car as she crossed Sunset Boulevard on foot. "I woke up," she says, "and they told me I should have been dead. But I'm still here."

How did Griffith end up playing the innocent McGill?

"I read the script to *Working Girl* two years ago and was scared to do it then because it was such a big role," she says. "I finally realized that I had to meet the challenge. Of course, it was torture to do it, but actresses have to be masochistic if they are going to get ahead."

And Griffith has done her share of masochistic roles, often

baring her body and specialising in a kind of sleazy sexuality. In *Fear City* (1984) she played a stripper, in *Body Double* (also 1984) she portrayed porno actress Holly Body and in *Something Wild* (1986) she played an off-the-wheel seductress. She graduated to heavier fare in *Stormy Monday* (1988) and *The Milagro Beanfield War* (also 1988).

In order that McGill not appear too sweet, Griffith suggested to Nichols a scene in which she vacuums while wearing only bikini underpants. "I had to convince Mike to do it that way," she says. "Mike gave me the freedom to create as much of the character as I wanted. I don't have any patience with actors who have to be told what to say, think and feel."

Griffith says she doesn't like to talk about her personal life, but is often the topic of Hollywood gossip columns. "There are crazy rumours about me — my housekeeper tells them to me all the time. I used to be honest with the press, but now I keep my mouth shut because I never know what they are likely to say about me."

Enemy

But the actress can often be her own worst enemy. During the interview she volunteered the information that ex-husband Johnson was waiting for her in her hotel suite, then she went on: "Some people insist on talking about my problems with alcoholism and cocaine. Well, I went to Hazelden (the Hazelden Foundation, a Minnesota clinic specialising in chemical dependency) to work things out. Now I get high on work. My life was unmanageable when I was on drugs. Now I understand my own needs more than ever. I like to live life to the fullest and that means a full sex life, but sex is nothing without personality."

Griffith is definitely on a roll. She is said to be a leading contender for the starring role in *Blaze* the true story of stripper Blaze Starr, who had an affair with Louisiana Gov. Earl K. Long in 1959. Her leading man would be Paul Newman, which ought to make for intriguing cinematic chemistry.

Beating the odds against success

By Simon Banner

EDDIE MURPHY may currently reign supreme as the American cinema's favourite actor, but Murphy's superstardom notwithstanding, Denzel Washington is the only black actor in Hollywood regularly being offered serious dramatic roles.

Why are there no others? According to Washington himself, it is not so much that Hollywood is a difficult place for a black actor, but that Hollywood is "a difficult place for an actor, period."

"Making it is a million-to-one shot, regardless of what colour you are," he says, with a slight shrug of his shoulders. "Maybe it's five-million-to-one for a black actor. I'm not sure, but I know I've got a lot of white friends who don't work at all."

Odds

Whatever the odds against success, clearly Washington has no particular need to spend his time calculating them. Now 32, he has experienced five years of almost continuous employment in Hollywood and has worked with such directors as Norman Jewison, Sidney Lumet and, most successfully of all, Richard Attenborough, playing Steve Biko in *Cry Freedom*. Besides that, his week-by-week appearance as Dr Philip Chandler in the long-running television show *St Elsewhere* has, in the United States at least, brought him to the attention of an audience far larger than films can these days deliver.

Yet Hollywood, he concedes, does have a shortage of good or even passable scripts, which is the reason why he came to London to make his latest film, a low-budget thriller by the name of *For Queen And Country* written and directed by Martin Stellman, previously best known as the author of the screenplay for *Defence of the Realm* and it finds Washington playing Reuben, a British paratrooper returning to a gloomy and decaying tower block in London's East End after active service in Northern Ireland and the Falklands.

The film's plot is loosely based on the real experience of one par-

ticular Falklands veteran, born in Barbados, who returned from the war to discover that he had been stripped of his British citizenship by the 1981 British Nationality Act.

To understand his experiences and background better, before production of the film got underway, Washington spent a week with the Royal Marines (alongside Dorian Healey, who is cast as a fellow Falklands veteran), and then a week living with a family in the Mile End Road.

"Basically the Marines ran our butts into the ground," Washington explains, "doing all these drills and swimming through mud and climbing ropes, going on four-mile runs and keeping the same wet clothes on at night."

"The final night they took everything away from us, including our rations, and then, at about four o'clock in the morning, we were ambushed."

"Was it necessary for the part? There are different approaches, but I think in this case this was the best thing to do. These were experiences I hadn't dealt with before, and what was particularly great about it, and what Martin Stellman wanted from it, was that Dorian and I bonded in a way that was different from everyone else in the film."

Living

As for living in the East End, Washington says that the longer he spent there the fewer differences he found between England and America. "I mean poverty's poverty, the police are the police, and so on. Of course the biggest problem was the accent. That was difficult for me. I recorded some people from the East End who were working on the picture and I took the tape back to the United States and people couldn't understand a word."

For *Queen And Country* may well be a British film, made by Working Title, the company of My Beautiful Laundrette and *A World Apart* fame, but its budget will only ever balance if it achieves some degree of success in the United States, where Washington's accent will go unremarked and where his pull at the box-office is considerable.

On this side of the Atlantic, producer Tim Bevan predicts



Denzel Washington: Hollywood's leading black actor

Washington will come in for criticism for his imperfect accent, but, on the other hand, believes that "after 10 minutes, you're sucked into the movie anyway."

"The other point to make," he says, "is that whoever plays Reuben had to carry the whole picture, and since Reuben's in every single scene, it's a God Almighty task. Other than Lenny Henry, who obviously would have been inappropriate for this part, I don't think there's a black actor in Britain who has got the experience or the star quality that was necessary."

Washington is the son of a Pentecostal minister and grew up in Mount Vernon, on the edge of the Bronx. He apparently spent his childhood getting into trouble. "Being the son of a minister didn't keep me out of trouble," he explains. "In fact, it catapulted me into it. I couldn't wait to get a drink, for example, because we didn't have alcohol in the house at all. Not that I was ever into anything serious, though a lot of my friends didn't make it."

Proud "Someone I grew up with just got out of jail the other day. He's been in there like eight, 10 years. I wiggled my way through, though. My mother had a lot to do with that. She was very tough on me and saw to it that I had a good education. I won a scholarship to a private school when I was in high school."

He went to university planning to be a doctor, more as a way of making his mother proud than from any burning desire to save lives, and after a couple of terms switched to drama and journal-

ism. He became set on an acting career after getting good reviews in a college production of *Othello*, and eventually moved on to San Francisco's American Conservatory Theatre. The key moment of his career seems to have been being cast as Malcolm X in an off-Broadway production, since which time he has not been out of work, though he has had his disappointments.

Cry Freedom, for example, may have done Washington's career some good, but the film itself foundered, and certainly did little to advance the cause of the anti-apartheid movement in the way he once thought it might.

"A lot more people knew about Steve Biko after the film than before," he says, "and that was important to me, but sure the film could have done a lot better than it did. This is a whole other conversation, but I think part of the reason for that had to do with the way the film was sold. Here's the thing as well: people go to the movies to be entertained not educated. A guy doesn't call his girlfriend up and say 'Let's see a movie to be educated', does he?"

Washington's recent projects include a forthcoming film called *Finding Mambo*, which he describes as "a murder-mystery, action-adventure purely escapist picture", while later this year he plans to make his screen debut as a comedy actor in films by two black directors who are among Hollywood's brightest new talents: Robert Townsend and Spike Lee.

Gene Hackman is red hot in Mississippi Burning

Rave reviews and Oscar predictions for his new film *Mississippi Burning* come as pleasant surprise for Gene Hackman who despite the admiration of peers and critics has never been considered a big box-office draw.

By Ivor Davis

"GENE HACKMAN is a consummate actor who analyses and demonstrates emotion with a minimum of effort," says *Mississippi Burning* director Alan Parker. "He is the only actor in the Spencer Tracy-Humphrey Bogart mold who exists today."

Although Parker has nothing but praise for Hackman, the two clashed constantly during the making of *Mississippi Burning*. In the film Hackman plays Southern-sheriff-turned-FBI-agent Rupert Anderson, who is sent to a racist Southern town with his play-it-by-the-book partner (Willem Dafoe) to investigate the disappearance of three civil-rights workers in 1964.

Despite criticism of Parker's picture, there is universal agreement that Hackman, 58, turned in his finest performance since winning an Oscar in 1972 for *The French Connection*. "His role of Anderson, a rumpled, seen-it-all FBI agent in ill-fitting suits, has made him the front-runner for this year's Academy Award for best actor."

It comes at the end of a busy year for Hackman, who had four films released — *Full Moon in Blue Water*, *Split Decisions*, *BAT 21* and *Another Woman*. But it is his portrayal of Anderson that is garnering attention.

Replenish The rave reviews and Oscar predictions come as pleasant surprises to Hackman who, despite the admiration of peers and critics, has never been considered a big box-office draw. Like many middle-aged thespians, he has had his share of ups and downs, alternating between the brilliant and forgettable. What has remained consistent, however, is that he is not only one of the busiest actors in the business, but one of the most respected.

So great was Dafoe's respect for his partner that he expected to be intimidated by him. "I was in awe of his acting long before I

went into film and was flattered to learn that he requested me for this role."

Hackman says he is working non-stop to replenish savings depleted by poor business investments and a hefty divorce settlement following his split three years ago from his wife of 30 years. He says he makes a lot of films because they pay well and allow him to take low-paying work in theatre.

He received an estimated \$2 million for *Mississippi Burning* but says he wanted the role more than the money. "I like to be involved with important projects," he says, "especially those that deal with real-life events."

Hackman's natural acting style stems from his philosophy regarding his work. "An actor's job is to fulfil the needs of the script and not broadcast who he is. A good director gives an actor latitude to develop mannerisms and express emotion his own way," he says.

Role Hackman says he knows his limitations. He refused a request by Parker to do a graphic love scene with actress Frances McDormand, who plays the wife of a bigoted deputy sheriff. "I did the love scene, but the script called for us to physically make love on the floor and I refused. ... They weren't going to show my body, not the way it looks now," he says, laughing.

To get the role of Anderson right, Hackman says he drew on his early experiences growing up in a small town (Danville, Ill.). "Small-town people are pretty much alike. One of the curses of celebrity status is that people are always watching you, which makes it difficult to observe the reactions of others," he says.

Although the story was loosely based on a true historical event — the murder of three civil-rights workers during voter-registration drives in the '60s — Hackman says he believes the story line is contemporary. "There is



Gene Hackman (right) and Willem Dafoe in *Mississippi Burning*.

bigotry," he says. "It does exist. It has not died completely."

In *Mississippi Burning* Hackman has etched one of the most memorable and complex characters of his career, which has spanned 25 years and some 50 movies. He started out onstage in New York City with a couple of actors who, like himself, have gone on to forge outstanding careers in film — Robert Duvall and Dustin Hoffman. (Ironically, Hackman may get his stiffest competition in the 1989 Oscar race from longtime friend Hoffman, who is a hot Oscar favourite for his role in *Rain Man*).

Hackman is no neophyte in the Oscar stakes, having received nominations for *Bonnie and Clyde* (1967) and *I Never Sang for My Father* (1969). But it was his starring role as the tough vicecop in *The French Connection* that made everyone sit up and take notice. Since then there have been wide-ranging roles in such films as *The Conversation* (1973), *Under Fire* (1983) and *Power* (1986).

He was the basketball coach in *Hoosiers* (1987). There were commercial blockbusters — *The Poseidon Adventure* (1972) — comedies — *Young Frankenstein* (1974) — and three "Superman" movies.

"I'm from the school that believes life is not complete if you're not doing movies," says Hackman. "I love to work. Unfortunately, I hate the busi-

ness. There is so much money involved, there are so many high-powered egos — mine included — there is the constant clash of artistic temperaments and it gets tiring after a while. You're constantly evaluating your career. ... What should I do next? Should I do this or that? Should I take this one for the money? Can I do this cheap film because I love it? There is a constant war."

Dilemmas

The dilemmas may become easier, however, because there is little doubt that Hackman, who now calls home Santa Fe, N.M., is hot again in Hollywood. He is currently working on "The Package" in which he plays an Army master sergeant. Then he will make his directorial debut in "The Silence of the Lambs," based on Thomas Harris' chilling best-seller about a mass murderer.

"I would rather have a small, showy role in a big picture than the lead," he says, "because I hate having the responsibility for the success of a film on my shoulders."

Before Hackman's recent career acceleration he threatened to walk away from the business if he found he was being offered only third or fourth leads in pictures. Now the chances of that happening are about as likely as the burly actor displaying on-screen that body he is so shy about.

Star bridges East, West divide

By Martin Nesirky

EAST BERLIN. (Reuters): West Germany's most popular television detective has deftly switched roles in a rare co-production with East German movie-makers to star as a bank robber in a new comedy set in bombed-out Berlin.

Goetz George, better known to fans on both sides of the East-West divide as detective Horst Schimanski, guarantees high ratings with his tough-guy appearances in the West German television series *Tatort* (Scene of the Crime).

Now East Germany's state-run film studios DEFA and a West German company are hoping to harness his popularity and draw crowds in both countries to a movie that casts George in the unfamiliar role of a sharply-dressed villain.

Lead If successful, it could lead to further co-productions. "Der Bruch" (The Break-In), which has just hit the screens in the East and starts in the West next month, depicts how a group of crooks dig their way into a bank in central Berlin in 1946 and make off with millions of marks.

The communist-controlled police in Berlin's Soviet sector are soon on the trail and eventually catch the criminals.

The film gives a picture of post-war Berlin — with its black market, bomb sites and sense of excited uncertainty about the future — and adds a comic twist by pitting experienced villains against novice police officers.

It combines crime with romance and stirs in a good measure of traditional Berlin life — cabaret, quick-witted rogues and poorly-lit backstreets.

"We wanted to make an entertaining film in a light way that would attract people. It's not that fewer people are going to the cinema — more people are going to fewer films," director Frank Beyer told reporters.

Award-winning plays may be subject of controversy

By Amit Roy

FUNDAMENTALIST Muslims in Britain who are campaigning for a ban on Salman Rushdie's novel *The Satanic Verses*, because it blasphemes the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) may soon be confronted with a new challenge.

In May BBC2 is to screen an award-winning series of five one-hour plays called *Shalom, Salaam*, in which the central character, Mumtaz Sattar, a young Muslim girl living in Leicester, overthrows some entrenched Islamic values.

The story centres on her relationship with Adam, a white Jewish boy.

Garth Jones, the playwright, says the series "gives a sympathetic view of the Islamic community and counters the extremist image being formed as a result of the reaction to the Rushdie book."

He sees Mumtaz, played by Mamma Kaash, an Indian-born actress, as "fighting the forces of fundamentalism that have been unleashed in Britain."

When the story begins in 1983, Mumtaz, then only 16, modestly covers her hair, offers prayers in an orthodox manner and avoids boys.

When it ends in September 1988, viewers will have seen a transformed and assertive Mumtaz wear a smart trouser-suit, study for a law degree, help her mother become a successful businesswoman, address a students' union as its president (this section was inspired by Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani prime minister who once presided at the Oxford Union), and decide against an arranged marriage with a Muslim in favour of an open relationship with Adam (played by Toby Rolt), whom she met in sixth-form college.

Kindly The fundamentalists may not take kindly to Mumtaz's exploration of her own sexuality. She holds hands with Adam, argues and fights with him, allows him to kiss her, then kisses him, and struggles with her desires in their relationship.

Although some love scenes in *Shalom, Salaam* convey passion, they carefully avoid being over explicit. Kaash, who is married with a young son, says she "laid down strict guidelines on what could and could not be filmed."

But the critical mood of some Muslims in Leicester is conveyed by Ismail Rawat, 25, who says

Shalom, Salaam, a series of five one-hour plays centres on a young Muslim girl in Leicester and her relationship with a white Jewish boy.



Mamma Kaash, star of *Shalom, Salaam*.

the imam (religious leader) at his local mosque thinks the series might encourage impressionable Muslim girls to imitate Mumtaz's experiments with pre-marital sex.

But Jones insists: "To focus exclusively on her physical relationship diminishes Mumtaz's tremendous professional and political achievement."

When *Shalom, Salaam* was entered for the Festival International des Programmes Audio-Visuelles (FIPA) at Cannes last October, audiences applauded its freshness. Mamma Kaash won the best actress award and Garth Jones best screenplay.

Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC's chairman, was quick to recognise *Shalom, Salaam* as one of the corporation's most important dramas for 1989.

Roles

He congratulated Kaash on her "considerable achievement", and told her that "these awards are a great encouragement to us all in the BBC."

Kaash became an actress after grammar school in Harrow, north London, an upper second in economics at Queen Mary College, London, and a brief spell with Rada.

Her previous television roles included playing a nurse in both *Emmerdale Farm* and *Angels* the

BBC hospital series.

In drawing the character of Mumtaz, Jones says he has tried to avoid Asian stereotypes. Mumtaz pursues her studies in the face of fierce opposition from her family and local mosque elders who oppose co-education.

The only support she gets is from her liberal-minded father, Sadiq, who drives a mini-cab now, but who was a teacher in Uganda before Asians were expelled by Idi Amin.

Jones regards *Shalom, Salaam* as mainstream drama which celebrates Asian success in Britain. He points out that Mumtaz's story is not that of a repressed girl who slavishly apes Western ways.

She retains her faith in both her family and her religion. To would-be Muslim detractors, Jones draws attention to her reasons for rejecting Adam's offer of marriage at one point. She says: "I want to be useful. I'm not going to cut myself off."

Mumtaz's father, Sadiq, played by the distinguished actor, Zia Mohyeddin, knows the Muslim community and does not doubt the series will cause controversy.

Echoing Sadiq's philosophy he says: "The only intelligent way to look at it is that if you live in this country, (UK) you have to play the game by the rules of this country."

SPORTS

Berry helps Kings rout Warriors

NEW YORK, Feb. 10, (AP): The Sacramento Kings made an NBA-record 16 3-points shots, led by Ricky Berry's seven, and beat the Golden State Warriors 142-117 last night.

The Kings shot 16-for-31 from 3-point range. The previous record was 11, set earlier this season by New York.

Harold Pressley made four 3-pointers, Rodney McCray and Vinny Del Negro each had two and Kenny Smith had one. Berry's seven 3-pointers, one short of the NBA mark held by Michel Adams and Rick Barry, single-handedly matched the previous Kings' record for 3-point baskets in a game.

Berry finished with 34 points and Del Negro had 22, both season-highs for the rookies. Kenny Smith added 25 points and Ed Pinckney and Pressley each had 20.

In other National Basketball Association games last night, Washington beat New Jersey 110-103; Cleveland defeated Indiana 108-99; Chicago edged San Antonio 108-103; Charlotte slipped by Atlanta 110-108; Denver routed Miami 117-92; Dallas defeated Utah 94-87; Phoenix defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 120-113; and Houston beat Portland 113-103.

Bullets 110, Nets 103
Harvey Grant and Darrell Walker sparked a late burst of 14 straight points that rallied Washington over the New Jersey Nets 110-103 and ended the Bullets' four-game losing streak.

Cavaliers 108, Pacers 99
Mark Price and Larry Nance scored eight points each during a 20-5 run in the fourth quarter and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Indiana Pacers 108-99, extending their team-record home winning streak to 15.

De Castella to run London marathon

LONDON, Feb. 10, (Reuters): Australia's former world record holder Rob de Castella will enter the London marathon for the first time this year, organisers said yesterday.

De Castella, who will be 32 this month, will be looking for his eighth career time of under two hours and 10 minutes. The London marathon, run on April 23, is known as a fast course.

De Castella, a biophysicist, finished only eighth in the Olympics in Seoul.

Hawaiian Open

HONOLULU, Hawaii, Feb. 10, (Reuters): American Brad Fabel was in a kind of "zone" where he could do no wrong when he shot a nine-under-par 63 yesterday to take the first-round lead in the \$750,000 Hawaiian Open at the Waialae Country Club.

PAKISTAN LET NEW ZEALAND OFF THE HOOK

Crowe and Jones revive Kiwis

WELLINGTON, Feb. 10, (Reuters): The second Pakistan-New Zealand Test was evenly balanced with New Zealand at 229 for four wickets at stumps on the first day in Wellington today.

Twice Pakistan threatened to break through on the placid basin reserve pitch but the batting of Andrew Jones and Martin Crowe in particular gave New Zealand a slight edge by the close of play.

At the close Martin Crowe was on 89 with his brother Jeff on 22. Martin Crowe's innings was a mixture of classic drives and cuts punctuated by long periods of dour defence. He ended the day on the brink of scoring his 10th Test century.

Justified

Pakistan captain Imran Khan's decision to send New Zealand in to bat on the flat pitch looked justified when part-time bowler Mudassar Nazar made an early double breakthrough before lunch.

First he had Robert Vance caught behind for five by Salim Yousuf and next over he had the other opener, captain John Wright, taken in the same manner for seven. That left New



Martin Crowe: unbeaten on 89

Zealand reeling at 18 for two.

But Martin Crowe's entry signalled a revival for the home team and provided the day's best batting.

With Jones he added 149 for

the third wicket in 195 minutes of attractive batting.

Jones, playing in front of his home crowd, batted aggressively hooking at every opportunity, albeit sometimes indifferently,

and driving fluently off the back foot.

He finally went to that shot, caught in the covers by Shoaib Mohammed off the persistent Salim Jaffer for 86.

Pakistan capitalised on the breakthrough when Imran snared Dipak Patel lbw for nothing.

However, Jeff Crowe, making a comeback since he was dropped as captain last season, batted with growing confidence after a slow start. Together the brothers re-settled the innings.

Pakistan's bowlers kept a tight line and length and on a pitch which gave no assistance after the first hour, were well rewarded for their patience.

They could have been better rewarded if Yousuf had held Jones' mis-timed hook when he was on 24, and if Javed Miandad had taken a first slip catch off Abdul Qadir's bowling when Martin Crowe was on 76.

Imran was the pick of the bowlers, having the admirable figures of one for 31 off 23 overs. He bowled a spell of seven maidens in succession in the morning.

Qadir bowled just 10 overs and, although tidy, he only extracted

slow turn.

Aaqib Javed, who at 16 years five months became the second youngest Test player in history, bowled steadily after Jones had initially taken to him. He failed to take a wicket and finished with none for 51 off 16 overs.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND	
R. Vance c Salim Yousuf b Mudassar Nazar	5
J. Wright c Salim Yousuf b Mudassar Nazar	7
A. Jones c Shoaib Mohammed b Jaffer	86
M. Crowe not out	89
D. Patel lbw Imran Khan	8
J. Crowe not out	22
Extras (b-5 lb-5 nb-10)	20
Total for four wickets	229
Fall of wickets: 1-13 2-18 3-167 4-168	

Bowling: Imran Khan 23-11-31-1, Salim Jaffer 19-3-41-1 (7ab), Mudassar Nazar 18-5-36-2, Aaqib Javed 16-2-51-4, Abdul Qadir 10-2-31-4, (2ab), Asrar Malik 4-1-9-0 (1ab).

Still to bat for New Zealand: Richard Hadlee, Ian Smith, John Bracewell, Ewen Chatfield, Danny Morrison.

Pakistan team: Mudassar Nazar, Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Shoaib Mohammed, Javed Miandad, Asrar Malik, Salim Malik, Imran Khan (captain), Salim Yousuf, Abdul Qadir, Salim Jaffer, Aaqib Javed.

Aussie umpires slam W.Indians' conduct

Australia confident of regaining Ashes

SYDNEY, Feb. 10, (Reuters): Boosted by winning the fourth Test and having the better of the fifth against West Indies, Australia are confident of regaining the Ashes from old enemies England in a six-Test series later this year.

"I'm really looking forward to going to England, and if we follow this season up with good performances there, I will be very excited about the future of Australian cricket," said Australian captain Allan Border.

West Indies won the five-Test series 3-1, taking the first three matches before Australia made a spirited comeback.

"After we beat England ... I reckon we will be third in the world after West Indies and Pakistan, and that's a good position to develop from," Border said.

Following consecutive series losses in 1985 in England and in 1986-87 here, Border's confidence is built on solid performances by a core of players in the Australian team.

David Boon and Geoff Marsh have established themselves as one of Australia's most successful opening pairs in history, while Steve Waugh, who led the English county batting averages last year, has blossomed into an all-rounder of Test quality.

Seen by many as the logical successor to Border, Waugh shone when the going was toughest under the West Indies' fire in the first three Tests, scoring twice in the 90s and taking vital wickets.

Top order batsman Dean Jones, ignored by Australian selectors early in the series following an indifferent tour to Pakistan, came back with a bang, blasting 216 in the fifth Test.

Solid

Wicketkeeper Ian Healy, almost unknown before the Pakistan tour, has proved himself to be a solid performer behind the stumps and has also made some success with the bat.

Adding Border, one of the world's leading batsmen, to that list, the Australian batting lineup looks promising especially if Mark Waugh, Steve's twin brother, or Tom Moody live up to their promise as middle-order batsmen.

But the problems, and the side's vulnerability, lie in the pace bowling attack.

Hit by the retirement of Dennis Lillee and the rebel tour to South Africa, the Australian pace attack has seen more changes than the English weather in the past five years.

With no less than two dozen bowlers tried during the transition period, Australia have yet to come up with a consistent combination.

Terry Alderman, who missed the fifth Test through injury, is almost certain to be picked but who joins him is still very much open to conjecture.

Front-runners are Merv Hughes, Craig McDermott, Geoff Lawson, Mike Whitney and Carl Rackemann, like Alderman a member of the rebel Australian tour to South Africa.

Bruce Reid, Australia's most successful strike bowler in the past two years, is fighting against time and a back injury to make the tour.

This line-up of possible candidates is further congested by hopeful newcomers and all-rounders such as Tony Dodemaide, Simon O'Donnell, Peter Capes and Dirk Tazelaar.

Border is likely to choose a maximum of three spinners from Trevor Hohns, Greg Matthews, Tim May, Peter Sleep and Peter Taylor, none of whom have shown any great expertise this summer.

Border recognises the glaring deficiencies, but sees light at the end of a long, dark tunnel.

"Bowling is where we need to concentrate and tighten up, and when we sit down and pick the squad we need to be mindful of the guys with the ability to take wickets."

Meanwhile, a report by umpires Peter McConnell and Ric Evans slamming the conduct of Viv Richards and his players in the fifth and final Test in Adelaide is to be referred to the West Indies cricket authorities.

The decision was made by the Australian Cricket Board (ACB)

today after they met to consider the report which followed a series in which there were frequent clashes between players and umpires.

The situation reached its peak in Adelaide where, among other incidents, fast bowler Malcolm Marshall appeared to shout and swear at McConnell and a visibly angry Desmond Haynes stood his ground for several seconds after being given out by Evans.

Touring sides are not subject to the code of behaviour regulations which govern the conduct of Australian players and the ACB is powerless to discipline them.

Conduct

"The executive is very concerned at the matters raised by umpires McConnell and Evans concerning the conduct of a number of members of the West Indian team including their captain," ACB chairman Malcolm Marshall said after the meeting.

It was decided that we would refer the full umpires' report to the West Indian board, noting our concern.

West Indies manager Clive Lloyd had earlier threatened to report adversely on the standard of Australian umpiring, particularly at what he saw as the exposure of the touring side to inexperienced Test umpires.

Evans was standing in his first Test and McConnell his fifth.

Gooden agrees to \$6.7m pact

NEW YORK, Feb. 10, (Reuters): The New York Mets and pitching ace Dwight Gooden announced agreement on a three-year, \$6.7 million contract on Wednesday, less than two years after he missed a third of a season because of cocaine use.

Gooden, 24, will get a \$500,000 signing bonus, \$2.25 million in 1989 and 1991 and \$1.7 million in 1990.

Relaxed

He said he was relieved the contract was settled.

"Now I can go out relaxed. It's all behind me. I can go out and try to put up numbers," said Gooden, whose numbers in 1985 - 24 wins and four losses - won him the National League Cy Young award as the League's best pitcher.

Gooden, 18-9 last year, has won 91 games and lost just 35 in five seasons.



Leonard (left) and Tyson: fighters of the year

Tyson and Leonard get top WBC awards

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 10, (Reuters): The World Boxing Council (WBC) on Wednesday named Ray Leonard and Mike Tyson, both of the United States, as fighters of the year for 1988.

It said Leonard's return to the ring on November 7 against Donny Lalonde was an historic achievement in winning two titles in one night and becoming the only boxer ever to win five world titles in five different divisions.

Total

Tyson made three successful heavyweight title defences in 1988, defeating Larry Holmes, Tony Tubbs and Michael Spinks in a total of six rounds.

The WBC named the Leonard-Lalonde bout in Las Vegas, in which Leonard won the light heavyweight and newly-created super middleweight crown, as Fight of the Year.

Another three fighters - Julio Cesar Chavez, Jeff Fenech of Australia and Roger Mayweather - got special mentions.

It said Chavez was honoured because his defeat of fellow Mexican Jose Luis Ramirez for the lightweight title established his place as one of the great champions of today.

Featherweight Fenech broke the million-dollar barrier in receipts for the first time in Australia in his last two fights against Ryrone Downes and George Navarro.

The WBC praised Mayweather for four defences of his superlightweight title, beating Mauricio Aceves, Harold Brazier, Rodolfo Gonzalez and Vinnie Pazienza. The WBC said that was a record number of title defences in one year.

The awards will be presented February 23 in Las Vegas.

Timman defeats Portisch

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb. 10, (AP): Holland's Jan Timman defeated Hungary's Lajos Portisch in the sixth and final game of their World Chess Championship candidates quarterfinal to win the match with an overall score of 3.5-2.5 on Wednesday.

It was the second consecutive victory in the hard-fought contest for the 37-year-old Dutchman, who had luck on his side, just as in the previous game, when he managed to tie the match, while experts felt his position halfway through should have resulted in a loss.

In Wednesday's encounter, he was never in danger of suffering

defeat, but according to the "chesspers" a draw was the maximum he should have gotten out of it.

Portisch played back in the Sicilian defence and was clearly aiming for a peaceful outcome, which would have caused the match to go into overtime.

He sacrificed a pawn and exchanged queens early on, simplifying the position until the two sides were almost completely evened out.

All Timman had left to fight on with, was a virtually worthless extra pawn and a slight spatial advantage.

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SPORTS

Curry set to take on Jacquot

GRENOBLE, France, Feb. 10. (Reuters) World Boxing Council (WBC) super-welterweight champion Don Curry has turned to taekwondo in an endeavour to sharpen his boxing skills for his title defence against Frenchman Rene Jacquot tomorrow.

Curry, 27, has been practising the Korean martial art for the past seven months to improve his co-ordination for his bout against the European champion. "To be honest I'd never heard of him before," Curry said. "But I watched videos of his fights as I never did before with an opponent."

"He's a good boxer and he's got good feet. But who has he beaten? And, in front of his own crowd, he'll have a lot of pressure."

Curry, earned himself the nickname of 'The Cobra' as he rose to become undisputed welterweight champion of the world.

But his aura of invincibility crumbled in September 1986 when Briton Lloyd Honeghan surprisingly beat him on his eighth defence of a title he had first won in 1983.

A defeat the following year to Mike McCallum of Jamaica also tarnished a record which includes 30 wins, 21 inside the distance, and just two losses.

Curry's fortunes turned last year when he captured the WBC super-welterweight crown on July 8 by knocking out holder Gianfranco Rosi of Italy.

He also married an air stewardess and has started studying for a post-boxing career in real estate.

"What people have not understood is that my defeats made me want to work more, made me more hungry," he said. "I had something, a title, that was taken away from me and I wanted it back."

Jacquot, also 27, who won the European title last January by beating Luigi Minichillo of Italy, has won 21 of his 31 fights. He has not been beaten in more than two years and has won his last 11 fights.

"Curry does not want to keep his title as much as I want to win it, that's not possible," Jacquot said. "He has two arms, two legs and weaknesses, too."

Al Arabi rally to hold Al Kuwait

CHAMPIONS Al Arabi Sports Club fought back, after conceding a goal, to hold Amir's Cup champions Al Kuwait to a 1-1 draw as the Kuwait Soccer League action started at the Sabah Al Stadium yesterday.

Both the goals came in the second half of the match after both teams failed to find the mark in the initial part of the game.

Al Kuwait went ahead through Al Zaid in the 4th minute of the second half but Amr Saeed got the equaliser four minutes later.

QATAR RALLY CUT SHORT AFTER MIDDLE EAST CHAMPION HITS ROCK

Sulayem injured, Al Hajri speeds to victory

By Gail Seery
in Doha

MIDDLE EAST motorsport took a very serious blow yesterday when reigning Middle East rally champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem hit a rock in mid-stage wrecking his car, putting both crew members in hospital. Sulayem was at the wheel of his new Toyota Celica 4wd with stand-in navigator Hassan Ali Bin Shadhoor, and the pair were running second in the Qatar International Rally.

The rock had somehow suayed into the centre of the track on Stage 25, just behind a blind crest, between Al Hajri passing and the arrival of the Toyota. There can be no doubt that all that the rock was placed in Sulayem's path quite deliberately, and with full intent to at best delay him, at worst, seriously injure him.

Sulayem and Shadhoor were airlifted to the nearest hospital; both were declared to be in non-critical condition, but were kept in overnight for observation. Earlier it was feared that Sulayem might have sustained severe damage to his back.

Two of the rally stewards, Derek Ledger of Jordan and former Qatar Clerk of the Course David Stone, were quickly on the scene and the decision was taken to cut short the rally immediately. The weakness of the emergency facilities was highlighted, as it took over an hour and ten minutes from the time of accident for the helicopter to arrive. If Sulayem's injuries had been more serious, this delay could have been fatal.

Team Manager Terry Plant described the incident for the Arab Times: "There was a large rock of about 2ft by 2ft placed in the middle of the rally track, just over a brow — people were seen placing it there. Mohammed came over not knowing it was there and hit the rock. It was knocked about twenty feet — it finished the car, and probably finished his back also. Hassan got out of the car and collapsed, but he'd just fainted, then Mohammed got out." Sulayem was finding breathing difficult and was lying on the ground in a great deal of pain.

In Dubai, Al Hajri had complained of being slowed by cars on the stages; on Thursday night in Qatar, they had to cancel the last three stages of the night because the Toyota team refused to enter the stages until something had been done about a car which had apparently, deliberately tried to slow them.

Slowing competitors in stages is not unique to either Qatar or Dubai. Placing rocks in the middle of the stages is not a new tactic either. After last year's Qatar Rally, Mohammed Bin Sulayem had told the Arab Times about "special Qatari walking rocks," and Toyota Team Manager Terry Plant confirmed this. "The first stage out on the second morning last year, we had a pile of rocks and the year before, even going back to when Mohammed first started rallying, we had to go round to try and stop them. It's also happening on their local events."

Abbas Al Mousawi had gone out of the event on stage five, with gearbox problems, and he was present at the scene of the accident. "This happens in local

match in Dubai. With only one team moving into the next round, Kuwait's only hope of qualifying lay in Pakistan either beating UAE or at least holding them to a draw. Goals from Khalid Ismail, captain Abdul Razaq Ibrahim and Adnan Al Talyani put UAE 3-0 inside 30 minutes before Abdulaziz Mohammed completed the rout midway through the second half.

Sharafat Ali scored Pakistan's first and last goal of their qualifying campaign from the penalty spot seven minutes from time. UAE won the three-team group after scoring 12 goals and conceding four in their four

games while Kuwait scored just six and conceded three. UAE swept forward from the start and threatened three times before Ismail tapped home a rebound to put the visitors ahead after seven minutes. Mohammed Salim set up Ibrahim to net the second in the 26th minute and Al Talyani ensured his side advanced to the next qualifying phase when his long-range effort a minute later made it 3-0.

Substitute Abdul Aziz Mohammed came on for Fahad Khamies after halftime and netted with a well-placed header after 71 minutes before striker Sharafat Ali ended the hosts'

long wait for a World Cup goal. In Baghdad, Adel Khamis scored a goal in the dying minutes to help Qatar hold Iraq to a 2-2 draw and also qualifying for the next round.

Iraq, who needed a win, after losing to the Qataris in Doha finished their qualifiers with eight points while Qatar got nine. Only one team goes forward to the next round.

The teams were 1-1 at half-time. Saleh Eid put Qatar ahead in the 18th minute of the first half but Iraq got the equaliser through Ahmed Radhi in the 31st minute.

Iraq seemed to have the match in hand after going ahead through Hussein Saeed in the 80th minute but Adel Khamis cut short their qualifying campaign by getting the equaliser for Qatar five minutes later.

Irish team DUBLIN, Feb. 10. (Reuters) The Ireland Rugby Union selectors yesterday named the side who beat Wales 19-13 in Cardiff last Saturday for the five nations championship match against England here on Feb. 18.

semifinals of the League Cup and the fifth round of the FA competition. The FA disciplinary committee also ordered Forest to improve the segregation of home and away fans at their ground and to post notices warning that the FA would take action if there was any more crowd trouble.

who invaded the pitch at Forest's City ground after a League Cup victory last month. But the touchline ban will apply only to League grounds, leaving Clough free to lead his team out at Wembley if they reach the final of the FA or League Cups.

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Clough gets fine, touchline ban

LONDON, Feb. 10. (Reuters) Nottingham Forest soccer manager Brian Clough was fined £5,000 (\$8,770) and banned from the touchline for the rest of the season yesterday for throwing punches at fans.

Clough was found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute after lashing out at spectators



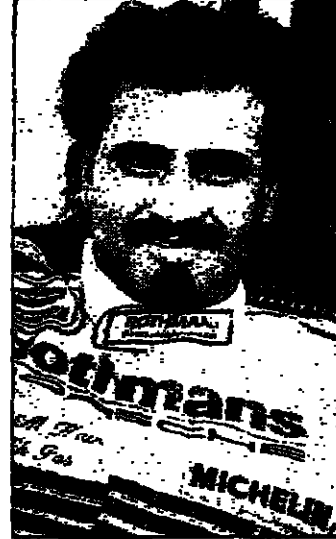
Bin Sulayem

rallies. I've made several protests, and at the time I was scared, just as Mohammed was. If I had continued in this rally, I would have got the same as him or even worse. This brow is completely blind, and Mohammed would have been travelling at least 140 kph — it's almost flat out there. The rock was very well placed — they caught the guy who did it. He was waiting for the operation to happen. They saw him waiting for the car to pass to make sure that the job was done — that's why they caught him."

The stewards and organisers of the rally issued a statement saying: "The 1989 Qatar International Rally resolved on penalties incurred up to and including the finish of SS24. Remaining sections of the event are cancelled due to hazardous spectator conditions."

This means that Saeed Al Hajri effectively took a one minute and 21 second victory over Mohammed Bin Sulayem, and therefore already leads this year's championship. Sadly, the situation is not resolved so simply. The driver who placed the rock in the track is alleged to be a relation of Hajri's, and if this is the case, it would appear that the desired results have been achieved. There can be no suggestion that the incident had anything to do with Saeed Al Hajri, but neither can there be any doubt that Sulayem was deliberately forced out of the event.

On his return to the Ramada hotel, Al Hajri told reporters, "What happened today was not good for rallying in Qatar, or the Middle East. We all had problems with spectators, even the cars at the back." He added that as the rally runs over open



Al Hajri

desert it is "impossible to keep spectators off it." Middle East rallying now faces a serious question as to how rallying can continue under such conditions. In the past the press has always been urged to play such incidents down "for the good of the sport", but the situation has worsened progressively to the point that it was clearly inevitable that sooner or later someone would be seriously hurt. All enthusiasts should be relieved that this was not the case on this occasion.

"I don't know what the organisers can do to stop this sort of thing," said Terry Plant. "They've got to do something if they're ever going to get a rally again."

The incident severely marred an otherwise exciting rally which saw the two top contenders passing the lead between them. Saeed Al Hajri took an immediate lead of one minute on the first stage but lost it back to Sulayem through a puncture a little later. In the night section, when the dust was lying thick in the air and the spectator activity was at a frenetic peak, Mubarak Al Hajri, in an Opel Manta 400, started to pull the seconds away from the Group A cars. He was leading Sulayem when he was forced to retire after Stage 16 on Thursday night.

Stage 16 was to be the last stage of the first leg, as Hassan Ali, navigating in the lead car, threatened to pull out of the rally unless some action was taken to curb the spectators.

The first leg saw Al Hajri more than 30 seconds ahead of Sulayem, after the Dubai apparently dropped a great deal of time due to being slowed in

stages by spectators. It must not be denied that Al Hajri was, once again, driving superbly, and the new Rothmans Ford Sierra RS Cosworth was performing well. However in places the 4wd of the Toyota clearly gave Sulayem a very positive advantage.

Al Hajri managed to keep ahead throughout the remaining stages. As always one of the silliest points about such spectator intervention is that it is largely counter-productive. Saeed may well have won the event with good driving — but no one knows how much spectator interference actually slowed Sulayem.

Mubarak Al Hajri drove the rally of his life, and had the experience of leading his brother on some stage times. Third place overall was taken by the second of the two Opel Mantas, driven by Al Kuwari, with Abdul Wahid Abdul Haye as co-driver. Fourth place was taken by Jaber Al Marri, driving a "Merch Special" which consisted of a Celica body with a Talbot engine.

Sixteen drivers started the ill-fated rally, and only 11 made it back to the Ramada hotel after Stage 24.

Provisional results

1. S. Al Hajri, Ford Sierra Cosworth 2.26.06; 2. M. Bin Sulayem, Toyota Celica GT4 2.27.27; 3. S. Al Kuwari, Opel Manta 400 2.34.08; 4. J. Al Marri, Merch Special 2.37.41; 5. Z. Mikdad, Suzuki 3.38.16; 6. L. Bryant, Toyota Corolla 3.46.18; 7. Y. Alloo, Toyota Starlet 3.48.59; 8. J. Martin, Subaru 4.07.25; 9. C. Side, Toyota GT 2000 4.23.21; 10. R. Cox, Toyota Corolla 4.26.37; 11. J. George, Toyota ST 1600 4.39.52.

against Paraguay, Chang pulled off his biggest win, beating the world's seventh-ranked player. Earlier, top-seeded Ivan Lendl, No. 4 Tim Mayotte and No. 7 Kevin Curren posted straight-set victories.

Lendl defeated Johan Kriek 6-4, 6-3; Mayotte downed Roger Smith of the Bahamas 6-3, 7-5; and Curren eliminated Nicolas Periera of Venezuela 6-4, 6-4.

Chang ran Connors all over the University of Illinois circle pavilion supreme court surface. At one point, Connors asked Chang, "are you 16 or 17?" Another time, Connors yelled, "remember, I'm an old man. I'm 36."

With both players playing from the baseline, Connors took the first two games, breaking Chang's service in the second. But the teenager broke Connors in the third and fifth games to take a 3-2 edge.

Ranked 29th in the world and fresh from two Davis Cup wins

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